

2007 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly

Church Renewal

Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Jan Nesse, has set a goal for the next six years: every congregation in the Northwest Washington Synod will be a growing congregation. She reminded the assembly that, "if you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always gotten."

To help the Synod achieve this goal of growth, Nesse asked congregations to remain focused on God's plan and purpose. Nesse encouraged growth by pointing out that congregations are living organisms and that growth is a natural and healthy process. "There is always hope for growth and renewal. Growing the church is not about numbers, but about the health of the organism."

Nesse presented six principles to tend God's garden:

- Interdependence
- Multiplication
- Energy Transformation
- Sustainability
- Symbiosis
- Fruitfulness

Pastor Jan Nesse welcomes discussion and offers her assistance as we grow during the next six years.