

Starting a Happening Program

“Happening-A Christian Experiencesm” is not an official program of the Episcopal Church in the U.S. It is a renewal program, much like Cursillo® -- designed for High School students in grades 10 through 12 to reflect and enhance the Anglican expression of Christian faith.

To begin Happening in a diocese, first get the permission of your Bishop.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!! The Bishop will be asked to sign a Ministry Agreement and forward it together with the first year license fee (currently \$150) prior to conducting your first weekend. The Bishop should appoint one or two ordained persons who have (or will have) experienced a Happening weekend to be Spiritual Director/s for the diocesan Happening movement and a Lay Director who works closely with the Spiritual Directors and team to help put on the weekend.

Obtain a Manual for Standards and Guidelines for the Happening Weekend from Happening National Incorporated. This will give you the structure of the weekend, and all the basic information that you will need. It is located on the Resources section of the website www.happeningnational.org. The password for this page is caritas .

After some basic framework is put in place, several youth and adults should attend a Happening weekend in a neighboring diocese to experience the weekend. This group, together with any youth, clergy, or adults who have recently attended a weekend, becomes the seed group to staff Happening weekend #1 for your diocese. The seed group, along with some seasoned staff members from the neighboring diocese, then puts on a Happening in the new diocese, and you are on your way. After each weekend, go on line to www.happeningnational.org and fill out and submit a Post Event Profile.

This may seem like a long process, but it really isn't. All of this can easily happen in six months to a year under the right conditions. If you have questions, contact Randy Winton, the Happening Executive Director of Happening National, Inc. at winton160@charter.net.