**Learnings from ABC Church Renewal Activities**

**Congregational Renewal Action Team of the ABC Board of General Ministries**

1. Adaptability is a key skill for leaders of church renewal.
2. Laity must take a leading role in congregations seeking renewal.
3. It is important to have a core of people in the congregation praying for renewal.
4. Church renewal requires a sense of desperation or urgency about the present situation.
5. It is helpful to see what others are doing via field trips, web sites, etc.
6. Renewal happens in spite of us, not because of us. God more often works through the things we think we could have done better rather than the things that we think we did well. It is God’s Spirit that transforms.
7. Church renewal programs do not work. One region calls the renewal activities “anti-process.”
8. Church renewal is not one size fits all.
9. Re-newal implies a returning to something. Church renewal is more about transforming. Church renewal is making yourself new for today’s reality.
10. Identifying core values is important for focus and consistency.
11. Pastors must be willing to be change agents. The tenure of the pastor is also important.
12. Having a wide network of ministry partners is more important than money.