"I joined the Mission Formation program at the 2013 GEMN Conference in Bogota to make connections with people already involved in mission. What I got was a family of like-minded individuals who taught me the important "ins and outs" of mission work. The mission formation class gave me ideas that hadn't occurred to me in the preparation phase of our mission."

Jeff Cornforth, Missionary to Bolivia, Diocese of Iowa



"The Mission Formation Program broadened and enhanced my knowledge of mission theory and experiences

of others and continues to influence my own thought process as I try to serve the least of these. I strongly recommend that you participate in this program."

Terry Franzén Diocese of Atlanta "Global Episcopal Mission Network provides educational opportunities and support for the apostolic missionary work God is calling us to do.

If you are ready to say HERE I AM, SEND ME, and are looking for an educational opportunity to affirm your skills and empower your ministry, the GEMN Mission Formation program is the opportunity you have been seeking."

The Rev. Canon Lura M. Kaval Canon of Development, Diocese of Honduras



"My GEMN Mission Formation program fieldwork resulted in re-establishing the United Thank Offering at my parish in Atlanta. The offering had been off the radar there for some years, so it required both education and publicity to get folks excited about daily prayerful thanksgiving and the tangible results that comes from dropping coins into the blue box. Those coins lead to more financial grants for global mission needs."

Mary Brennan, Communication The Episcopal Church





Mission Formation Program

GEMN offers a comprehensive twoyear Mission Formation Program to assist and encourage individuals with a heart for global mission to develop their own mission philosophy through field work, theological reflection, readings, and practical skills. It can lead to credibility through leadership development.







Objectives:

- Explore the theological basis for mission and demonstrate a knowledge of theological reflection
- Understand Anglican Mission history.
- Understand discernment processes.
- Study approaches to the formation of mission committees.
- Acquire knowledge of available resources for mission and mission networking.
- Know the Episcopal Church's standards for sending long-term missionaries and for receiving/ hosting mission visitors.
- Learn essentials of preparing for short term mission trips.
- Explore a variety of methods for mission promotion and recruitment.
- Encourage youth in mission.
- Provide practical steps in preparation for mission.

Requirements:

- Attend the Formation Sessions directly prior to two annual GEMN conferences.
- Participate in the annual conference.
- Conduct fieldwork between conferences.
- Complete required readings and some optional readings from the Formation Program Bibliography (available on-line) and submit an evaluation of each book.
- Attend a diocesan or regional mission event if available (optional/encouraged).
- Participate on a foreign or domestic mission team (optional/encouraged).

Gini Peterson, Facilitator for GEMN Mission Formation Program

Gini Peterson has been an educator all of her adult life. She was a former President of GEMN and is a past president of the Global Mission Commission for the Diocese of Atlanta. Currently, she serves on the Board of Trustees for the Society for the Propagation for Christian Knowledge. Her mission involvement has taken her around the globe. She is gracious, charming, and a joy to get to know.

Fieldwork:

The fieldwork component is a project related to mission awareness or mission activities, local or global, and mentored by a Formation Program graduate. The participant is required to submit an update to the mentor twice a year, with a final written report due at the next gathering.

Examples of appropriate fieldwork:

- A diocesan mission inventory.
- Identification of local mission activities.
- A study of *Companions in Transformation*.
- Formation of a diocesan or parish mission committee.
- Participation on a foreign or domestic mission team.

Added Benefits:

The Formation Program provides a small, comfortable group in which to study. It's a relaxed atmosphere to grow in God's mission. Graduates have commented that some of the best things about the program are the friendships that are formed and the inspiration that comes from sharing with each other.

