

# Consider Partnering with a New Ministry Start in the Virginia Synod



God continues to do new things in new places and **New Ministry Starts** create new congregations and new expressions of ministry to share the good news of God's love with new communities. As a local ministry partner for a New Ministry Start, your congregation would help provide financial support to assist the new ministry in reaching sustainability and your congregation has the chance to learn from your partner's insights into how they are reaching new people with the story of Jesus.

## New Ministry Starts fall into two categories:

- **Synod Authorized Worshiping Community** – a new ministry which is led by a mission developer and is gathering people to grow closer in relationship to God, to one another, and to their community.
- **Exploration** – a three-to-six-month time of listening and learning to discover what possibilities exist for a new ministry in a particular mission field.

## The Virginia Synod currently has 3 Synod Authorized Worshiping Communities and 2 Explorations.

- Synod Authorized Worshiping Communities
  - Micah Street Church (Fredericksburg)
  - All Places Together (Digital)
  - Peace and Hope (Digital)
- Explorations
  - Virginia Eastern Shore Exploration
  - Lake Anna Exploration



(Micah Street Church Worship)

You can learn more about these New Ministry Starts at: <https://vasynod.org/new-ministry-starts/>

## How can you or your congregation get involved?

- **Become a Local Mission Partner and build a relationship with a New Ministry Start**
  - Download the "Becoming a Mission Partner Toolkit" at <https://vasynod.org/new-ministry-starts/>
  - Reach out directly to one of the Virginia New Ministry Starts. Invite them to share their ministry story and ask them what type of support would be helpful.
- **Provide financial support directly to a New Ministry Start**
  - Include a monthly or yearly gift for a New Ministry Start in your congregation's Investment in Ministry Plan. \$50 to \$100 a month makes an impact for a new ministry.
  - Create a yearly special offering to provide financial support for a New Ministry Start
- **Provide financial support for current and future New Ministry Starts**
  - Include a monthly or yearly gift for the Virginia Synod New Ministry Start Fund in your congregation's Investment in Ministry Plan
  - Create a yearly special offering to provide financial support for the Virginia Synod New Ministry Start Fund

For more information, please contact Pastor John Wertz, Jr. at [wertz@vasynod.org](mailto:wertz@vasynod.org) or 540.389.1000.