

MISSIONAL CHURCH CONSULTATION INITIATIVE

Pastors' Training Session Debrief – September 26, 2015

Met Tuesday, September 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pastor Jeff met with others at the Conference Center, while Pastor Becky joined via Skype from Wesley.

9 Pastors were present from 8 churches (3 pastors absent)

- 2 Pastors from southern Illinois
- 2 Pastors from Virginia
- 5 Pastors from West Ohio (plus 3 absent)
- Leaders: Rev. Sue Nilson Kibbey, Rev. Joseph Bishman, Grace Gerber
- Churches range in size from 75 to 500 in worship; settings from rural, small town, county seat, suburban and urban
- Locally, Archbold UMC is also participating in this MCCI cohort

This process is designed to prepare the congregation for the Consultation Weekend that will be scheduled when we believe the church is ready. Data is gathered, prayers are lifted and reports completed to create urgency and anticipation of the Consultation Report.

ASSIGNMENTS

- Submit names of at least 5 church members who will receive email notice of the assignments given to the Pastors at each session, as a way to promote transparency, encouragement and accountability. *Thanks to the efforts of John Opdycke and Mike Tippin, these persons have been recruited and names have been submitted.* List of names was sent Sept. 25, 2015.
- Pastors are to recruit and bring at least 5 unpaid leaders (plus staff and other leaders/members) to **Breakthrough Prayer Initiative Training** on Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (note change in time) at Hueston Woods. Names are due to Grace Gerber by October 1. (As of today, we have 3 confirmed attendees plus Pastors; an announcement will be made tomorrow.) This will ramp up our **Breakthrough Prayer Initiative** at Wesley. BT Prayer changes the focus of the church's prayer life so that the congregation can see beyond itself and fuels an atmosphere of possibility.
- Gather data for **Growing Generous Givers** and bring to the November 17 session. This part of the initiative will equip Pastors to lead churches in ways that promote stewardship and generous giving.
- Pastors are to select and convene an unpaid team under their supervision who will begin research and work on Wesley's **Congregational Self-Study**. This team will work collaboratively and should include long-time as well as new members/attenders. This document

will help to “drive us into the future.” Team is to launch before the November 17 session. (Staff members will be available to provide data as needed, but the team will be responsible for writing, assembling and editing the report.) The report is due *at least 2 weeks (preferably 1 month)* before the Consultation Weekend. Sections include:

- History and Description – history of congregation, staff history, ministry leaders, building construction and renovation history, organizational structure.
 - Demography – For each of the last 20 years, members confirmed and baptized, weekly worship attendance, Sunday School and Bible class attendance, transfers in, transfers out, baptisms by infant and adult, adult confirmations, professions of faith, persons removed, average age of regular participants, percent of worshipers who also attend Bible class or small group, percent involved in identifiable ministry, members/participants involved in identifiable ministry, total receipts and expenditures, amounts given and percentage of giving for the top 20 giving units last year (without names), total number of giving units and average given last year.
 - Community Study – Brief overview of the area and community, including history, population, income levels, education levels; social, ethnic and religious diversity; age distribution; growth/decline trends; other significant characteristics. Brief description of the square mile area around the church.
 - Beliefs and Practices – Core values and basic beliefs of the congregation, other important commitments or practices that characterize the congregation, such as denominational issues, key social issues, community activities and groups, significant financial commitments.
 - Documents – Provide copies of last 2 annual budgets and financial statements; sample bulletins for one month; any policy statements; last 2 Board minutes; other printed documents that are helpful to understand Wesley.
 - Self-Study Group – The Board and Staff will discuss a series of questions and complete an exercise pertaining to congregational conditions before printing the final Self-Study Report.
 - ***This is not a secret report and will be made available to anyone who wants to read the report or understand how and why it is being compiled.***
- Administer the ***Primary Leadership Component Survey*** with at least four different teams, which must include paid staff and Board. Discuss results with them and explore how this information influences how we might successfully work and team together, what we can learn from knowing each other’s Primary Leadership Component. Pastors are to compile insights and submit email. Goal will be ultimately to use this tool with every team/committee church wide, so that we can develop a culture of thinking more carefully about who brings what to the table when serving.

FUTURE EVENTS/DATES

- ***Breakthrough Prayer Initiative Training***, Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hueston Woods.

- **Resource Refocus** event will be scheduled at Wesley in the future. All church members and attenders are welcome to participate. A leader will come from MCCI and lead a 2.5 hour session to help understand the current deployment of resources and whether those resources are fruitful for the mission of the Church.
- **Consultation Weekend**, to be scheduled. MCCI Consultation Team will arrive on Thursday evening and work Friday and Saturday. Resulting Consultation Report with strengths, weaknesses and prescriptions will be presented in worship as part of sermon by member of the Consultation Team.
- **Discussion Sessions**, to be scheduled at Wesley. Church leaders will facilitate prayerful dialogue sessions for congregation to consider the report.
- **Church Conference**, to be scheduled 30 days after Consultation Weekend. District Superintendent will preside over a Church Conference to vote on the prescriptions. If they are accepted by at 75% affirmative vote, the process will continue with teams established to plan and implement the prescriptions, assisted by outside coaches *at the Conference's expense*. Implementation costs will be Wesley's responsibility.
- **Future Pastor Training Dates** and proposed **Debrief Dates**:

Pastor Training Date	Proposed Debrief Dates
Nov. 17, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Nov. 21, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Dec. 10, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Dec. 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Jan. 19, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Jan. 23, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Feb. 16, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Feb. 20, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Mar. 15, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Mar. 19, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Apr. 19, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Apr. 23, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
May 24, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	May 28, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
June 28, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	July 2, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
July 19, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	July 23, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Aug. 16, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Aug. 20, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Sept. 20, 2016, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Sept. 24, 2016, 9:00 a.m.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Office Manager Barb Gorrell will create and maintain a public notebook regarding MCCI in the office for anyone's inspection during office hours.
- We will communicate MCCI developments to the congregation through the bulletin and announcements regularly.