

MISSIONAL CHURCH CONSULTATION INITIATIVE

Pastors' Training Session Debrief – November 21, 2015

Met Tuesday, November 17, 2015, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Pastor Jeff at Conference Office, Pastor Becky (and 3 other pastors via Skype)

Accountability

- Reported that Breakthrough Prayer Initiative has been launched at Wesley on Nov. 8.
 - Breakthrough Prayer Cards
 - Prayer Walking has been introduced and is being encouraged for everyone. The Board and Ministry Staff have been prayer walking at their meetings, and all other groups are encouraged to incorporate this into your meetings and gatherings.
- Shared that the *Self Study* team has formed and begun their work.
- Reflected on what we learned by administering the Primary Leadership Component (PLC) Assessment and how we plan to use it (or a similar tool) in the future.
- Heard reports from the other 8 pastors.
 - We are off to a good start. Some of the other churches are further along, some are struggling with obstacles.

New Material

- Began learning about creating and implementing a ***Year-Round Stewardship*** process (this will take several months to work through).
 - Too many churches only tend to stewardship during the fall campaign, and so people learn that stewardship is only about giving money to the church (or negatively, about the church begging for money).
 - John Wesley advised the early Methodists to “***earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can.***”
 - A holistic, year-round stewardship campaign addresses all three components: earn, save, give.
 - What would happen if the church:
 - Taught people to earn?
 - Instructed people how to get out of debt?
 - Encouraged people to save and invest?
 - Lifted up the tithe?
 - Note: Only 3% of Christians in the U.S. tithe – most are in Utah.
 - Helped people find freedom from financial bondage?
 - See 2 Corinthians 8-9, where Paul lays out a system for stewardship.
 - Plan various stewardship activities (classes, etc.) throughout all four quarters.

- Church needs to hear *pastors' personal financial values*
- Need to identify and understand the *church's financial values*
 - What are Wesley's financial values? (Make a list.)
- Informational Handout: *"MCCI Church/Pastor Checklist: MCCI Weekend Readiness"*

Assignments

- *Continue* work on Breakthrough Prayer, Self-Study and implementation of the PLC
- Pastors are to articulate in writing their *personal financial values* (actual, not aspirational).
- List in writing the actual *financial values of the congregation.*

Reminders

- There is an MCCI Notebook in the Church Office for anyone's review.
- There is an MCCI Webpage on the Wesley website (www.bryanwesleyumc.org) with updates and resources.

Next Session Thursday, December 10, 2015, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Next Debrief Saturday, December 12, 2015, 9:00 a.m., Lounge