

Leadership Retreat - September 18, 2010 - Recap

Growth and Focus Areas in Review:

What is Saint Nicholas' definition of a Discipleship Church?

(reference Acts 2 and the actions following Peter's preaching at Pentecost: vs 42 - 47 "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers...All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need...praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.")

We...

- Love God (which includes vibrant worship and stewardship)
- Love Others (which includes fellowship, caring, and evangelism)
- Teach and Learn (education and study for all ages)
- Serve the World (service in the community and beyond)

so that we may accomplish our mission: Growing and empowering disciples of Jesus Christ for the ministries of God's work in the world.

How do we envision the next decade?

Year 2020: Be a Discipleship Church. This concept continues as our main focus area. We have developed a new logo and incorporated it in our ministry structure, letterhead, weekly and newsletter. A banner has been hung in the North Wing until the logo can be painted or decals placed on the wall. The banner will then be relocated to the nave, placed above the double doors so that all who exit the nave may be reminded of this focus for our daily lives.

- 2015 - 2020:** Continue structure formation of Ministry Areas
Review staffing needs, especially for youth and families, remembering our history in this area
Revisit the use and stewardship of our outdoor areas
Expand weekday offerings, i.e. daycare, before and after care
- 2011 - 2015:** The transition during the interim time to a called pastor in the near future presents opportunities and challenges:
 - Engage members in various aspects of Saint Nicholas' life
 - One congregation which has the choice to worship in three distinct ways
 - Turn weaknesses into strengths:
 - Regular attendance by all. What does regular mean?
 - Participation across the congregation in planned activities
 - Publicity/Communication of information and events
 - Evangelism -- create excitement within the congregation which then is translated to the community at large
 - Reaffiliation of those who are not with us regularly now
 - Stewardship
 - Bible Study
 - Energized worship with energized worshipers more than as an audience or spectators
 - Strong outreach to the younger age groups with leadership by a team of people

Year 2020: North Wing Kitchen completed. By turning our weaknesses into strengths, with a vibrant and excited membership, with our general operating budget fully supported, this goal can be attained.

2015 - 2020: Specific fund raising for the NW Kitchen

2011 - 2015: Continued understanding and development of how to use the North Wing

Ministry Area Leadership: This is a focus area throughout the decade. (A suggestion from the 2009 retreat was to create ministry area teams, with the chair of the team being the sponsor for this ministry. The Ministry of Administration is a function of the Church Council.) Points made during discussion:

- 1) Delegate tasks to additional people
- 2) Expand responsibilities across the congregation to interested members
- 3) Keep the pastor informed
- 4) Set a time period for planning and executing activities
- 5) Set a scope of tasks for each specific activity
- 6) Intentionally communicate between Ministry Areas
- 7) Figure out how the ministry areas uniquely operate, then define the leadership needed and how the congregation can support that leadership
- 8) More contemplation and discussion is needed

Next Step: Meet again and soon to continue the discussion about leadership.
Send recap to all invited participants.
Provide summary to the newsletter and for inclusion in next week's bulletin.
Provide detailed recap to the congregation.

Critique: The timing of this review was later than hoped because of the transitions in the spring. Though each group invited was represented, a greater attendance may have added to the necessary momentum for action.