

July 30, 2022 - Leadership Gathering Notes

(Below is a summary of the conversations we had in smaller groups. Staff has put their names by items they will work on - we would like at least one lay person to add their name. To do that -contact Dan or the staff member listed.)

Worship Times (all staff and

- 1 service with modified and mixed music. More people on stage makes it feel more dynamic. Have event Sundays like an invitation Sunday.
- 1 service but have it twice so people who volunteer can still be in a service without feeling like they are missing. Get people to share and invite their friends.
- One service -have to pick the right time - many folks have other activities on Sunday. Older members don't like early services.
- Take our time in making the decision between 1 or 2 services. Use the 1 service from end of November to January be a trial run
- Send out a survey to get a feel for what people want
- 10:00 a.m. is a good time
- Blended service to achieve "mass"
- Work on multiple worship presentations
- Stagger the launches (re-launch one service in January with a commitment to re-launch a 2nd by _____)
- The risk of starting with one and needing to add a service is a positive risk
- Set up for 300 with a plan to add more.
- Who are we trying to reach? Focus on younger crowd (40 or younger) - but also support everyone. We'll naturally focus old, since that's our church's population. Target person - Unchurched family with children/youth.

Prayer (Dan, Hans, Pam Jackson, Joyce Beales

- Begin praying for the people in the service we do not attend.
- Encourage formation of prayer groups outside of church space/time. Prayer events/vigils could encourage members to pray longer. Supporting our members with opportunities to do prayer together is important.

Small Groups/Serve

- “Empty Nesters” Group - Dan, Terri McClure and
- Senior Adult Groups -Hans
- An Explorer group...take trips to points of interest Montpelier, Lake Anna, etc.
- Worship Planning Team (high commitment, seasonal - talk with Dan) Dan, Yasmin, Jim, Geary P.
- Member “fix-it” support group that would assist members in small projects or needs at their homes
- 250th Anniversary Team - Dan, Roger L. Clatterbuck
- Parent Encouragement/Support Group -Dan
- Visit shut-ins or people with illness, send cards to people in hospital, etc. - Hans (working with Brad Hales at Reformation Lutheran)

Music (Dan, Winston, Yasmin, Jim and)

- Choral music – diversity
- Multiple styles in each service – drama, dance team, full choir, praise team
- How many elements can we fit in a 60 minute service
- Integrate music styles
- Attenders of the contemporary service more likely to come to alternate services (i.e. night of worship)
- Add testimonies – other elements so “music” does not define the service.
- Monthly “Gospel Hour” in the Courtyard during favorable weather. A one-hour gospel singing session in the courtyard. The singers are those who come...needs a leader with a guitar, etc. and can lead the music. Keep it simple...people eat before they come, bring their own chair and beverage.

Children (Jeanine, Kathryn and

- Vary what is done for children since it can be a draw to families especially with younger children. Photo opportunities every Sunday so families and young people can post to media and that might help bring people in. Get families to help do the advertisement.
- Volunteer with CDC, interact with kids to lead us to opportunity to build relationships with parents.
- Start attending CDC activities that (graduation, fun fair, concerts, etc) that we are always invited to.

- Child care –transition from being in the service at the beginning to transitioning to something else
- Need signage
- Use Fellowship hall space.
- Is childcare essential? Definitely for the churched - maybe not for younger, unchurched families. We need to strike the balance: provide adequate childcare, but also make services accessible to children!

Parking/Greeters/Logistics (Dan and Tom Heilman)

- Evaluate handicap spaces in top lot
- Greeters
- Better outside signage to direct and welcome people
- Encourage folks/leaders to park in the spaces far away from the building.
- Consider another elevator from the outside
- Golf cart –shuttling people to the sanctuary
- Set up chairs based on the # attending
- Good weather/bad weather issues
- Utilizing youth to direct and or help seniors
- Reminders to come early (time to park)
- Some don't know where the entrance is? Have a coffee table/tent outside (or other visible outside gathering spot) so people are visible outside the sanctuary.

Hospitality/Discipleship (Dan and

- Provide hospitality on 1st floor for people to visit with each other
- Create times for groups to meet
- Have a “volunteer hub” at each service
 - Description of needs
 - “general volunteer” or a “fill in volunteer” e-mail list
 - Volunteer “swag” – t-shirts
- How can alternative seating make it more welcoming? – mixing up people's “spots”