

VISION TEAM MEETING NOTES

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019

Some of our time together was spent on learning the dynamics of different church sizes. (See attachment) Our church is in the “Program Sized Church” category with worship attendance averaging 150-300 each Sunday. Discussion pointed out characteristics from several of the categories that applied to our situation. Please note that these categories stem from research by the Alban Institute in 1992. It is interesting to see what is still true today. Additional information in this handout included helping people transition from one size to another.

The other portion of the meeting was devoted to picking up with the suggestions from the last meeting related to our aspirations or Strategic Anchors as listed in the Playbook. We divided into small groups and narrowed down the focus for the most important priorities. Here are the suggestions:

OUR STRATEGIC ANCHORS – How will we succeed? (Using 6 themes from HowWeGather.org)

1. Experiencing Community will be successful when we build relationships (share life) with people we don't know well.
 - ***Expand Open Table for more connectedness to the rest of CUMC.***
2. Experiencing Personal Transformation will be successful when people take responsibility for their own spiritual growth.
3. Experiencing Social Transformation will be successful when we see our work through love and grace result in positive change in our homes, our work places, our community, and our world.
 - ***Build and maintain relationships with other churches.***
 - ***Community-based service opportunities (outward focus)***
 - ***Survey community Open Table to see what the true needs are***
 - ***Get community leader's input***
4. Experiencing Purpose Finding will be successful when we discover, claim, and practice our spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities.
 - ***Helping everyone discover their spiritual gifts and how to use them through our church.***
5. Experiencing Creativity will be successful when we boldly encounter God in new and exciting ways.
 - ***Exploring alternative worship like dinner church or Messy Church.***

6. Experiencing Accountability will be successful when we are encouraged to embrace the wholeness of who God calls us to be.
- ***Hold one another accountable to what we all promised when we became members.***
 - ***Everything we do should be guided by our mission and vision. If not, don't do it. Be able to articulate how existing and new programs fulfill the vision.***

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, Oct. 29, 5:30 pm. The earlier time is to allow for those who attend bell choir rehearsal at 7 pm.

We will focus on a simple streamlined organization for church governance for 2020. To prepare for a shift, the Nominations Committee will be asked to secure only the required positions for charge conference until we decide upon a definite structure.