

BETHANY
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

5-Year
Ministry Plan

Adopted July 12, 2006

OBJECTIVES – BUILDING & GROUNDS

Goal: Develop a proactive maintenance plan and budget to provide an inviting, safe and functional facility that supports the needs of a growing church family.

- ◆ Develop a Long Term Maintenance Plan and Budget

- ◆ Inviting –
 - * Recruit and Involve Volunteers in Periodic Deep Cleaning of Grounds and Interior
 - * Add and Maintain Additional Planting Beds
 - * Update/“Warm Up” Upstairs Classrooms
 - * Create a Cozy Adult Space
 - * Enhance Entrance to Fellowship Hall (make fellowship time more obvious & inviting)

- ◆ Safe –
 - * Evaluate Security and Develop Protocol
 - * Study Traffic Flow Needs of Entry/Narthex
 - * Consider Allergy/Air Quality Issues in Furnishings, Fixtures, fragrance-free Cleaning Supplies, etc.

- ◆ Functional –
 - * Improve Mineral Point Road and Larkin Street Driveway Signage
 - * Improve Condition of Parking Lot
 - * Increase Number of Handicapped Parking Spaces
 - * Fine-Tune Microphones/Sound System (especially under balcony)
 - * Train Additional People to Operate Sound System
 - * Purchase Sanctuary Furnishings
 - * Purchase New Furniture for Fellowship Hall
 - * Consider Re-establishment of a Kitchen Committee
 - * Schedule Regular Cleaning/Make Improvements to Kitchen
 - * Develop a Long-Term Plan to Update Parsonages (inside and out)
 - * Evaluate Use of Space
 - * Study Long Term Facility Needs

OBJECTIVES – COMMUNICATION

Goal: Develop a comprehensive plan for effective, engaging and enticing communication.

◆ Establish a Communication Team

- * Identify and Analyze Communication Channels/Products
- * Coordinate and Implement Analysis
 - consider a volunteer coordinator
 - track potential volunteers using CMS; consider involving youth and children
 - establish a better method of contacting and engaging volunteers
 - provide volunteer in-service and training
 - utilize more frequent and varied forms of communication
 - increase personal invitations
 - maintain the website
 - develop church brochures
 - reimplement discussion of all-church calendar at Church Council
 - create a procedure manual/historical record for each committee and group
 - create a “Look-Here-First” book (in FAQ format) for the church office
 - improve communication between generations

OBJECTIVES – MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Attract, welcome and connect people to the church family.

◆ Attract –

- * Encourage Personal Invitations from Members
- * Enhance Signage (incl. Larkin Street driveway)
- * Maintain a Seeker-Friendly Website
- * Explore Effective Means of Using Advertising Budget

◆ Welcome –

- * Teach Members to Welcome Visitors
- * Expand Greeter Training
- * Develop a Visitor Packet/Brochure/CD that Includes Worship Service Information (include a “gift” such as bread, coffee mug, etc. as a meaningful way to welcome visitors that is not intrusive at church or home)
- * Conduct Regular Tours of the Church

◆ Connect –

- * Train Membership Committee to Lead New Member Classes
- * Develop a Member Covenant (consider taking to entire congregation as a commitment renewal)
- * Establish Good Tracking System of Involvement
- * Consider Development of a New Members Mentor Program
- * Conduct New Member Interviews After 6-8 Weeks
- * Incorporate New Members into Small Groups and Activities
- * Incorporate New Members into Care Teams

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OBJECTIVES – MINISTRY TO CHURCH FAMILY

Goal: Connect everyone to our church family through participation/leadership in fellowship, caring ministry, spiritual study and worship.

◆ Fellowship –

- * Create More Small Groups
 - fellowship
 - recreational (e.g. softball, volleyball, bowling, bridge, investment club, etc.)
- * Schedule Intentional Intergenerational Events
- * Schedule Regular All-Church Events (e.g. ice cream social, hanging of the greens, etc.)
- * Implement Friday Night Dinner Out (with childcare)
- * Maintain Relationship-Based Youth Group
- * Maintain Scouting Programs
- * Maintain Pictorial Directory (every five years)

◆ Caring Ministry –

- * Implement, Monitor and Modify Care Teams
- * Address Spiritual Needs of Our Homebound Members
- * Create More Small Groups
 - support groups (e.g. parenting, special needs children, caregiver, divorce, etc.)
- * Offer Financial Education/Planning
- * Maintain Relationship-Based Youth Group
- * Continue to Encourage Inactive Members

◆ Spiritual Study –

- * Create More Small Groups
 - study/spiritual (John Wesley model)
- * Offer Financial Education/Planning
- * Expand Adult Education Opportunities
 - maintain Tuesday evening classes; consider additional classes throughout week
 - revisit Sunday morning forum
 - volunteer-led classes
 - in-home/coffee shop discussion groups
 - online courses via Bethany's website
- * Sunday School
 - Explore Possible Format Changes

◆ Worship –

- * Schedule Periodic One-Service Sundays
 - Homecoming Sunday
 - old fashioned service with potluck following
 - 5th Sunday hymn sing
 - holidays
- * Sunday School
 - Address 10:45 Needs (Sunday School, Junior Church)

◆ Encourage Spiritual Gifts Development (e.g. leadership, music, lay speaking, etc.)

◆ Address Leadership Development (especially procedures manuals for committee chairs)

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OBJECTIVES – OUTREACH

Goal: Create a sense of ownership, excitement and urgency for outreach.

- * Clearly Focus All Outreach Efforts and Maintain a Balance Between Local, National and International Opportunities
- * Develop Clear Procedure, Criteria and Evaluation Process for All Outreach Opportunities
- * Create Greater Awareness of Outreach Programs
- * Continue to Be a Leader in Social Justice Issues
- * Offer Educational Programs on Mission Activities and Social Justice Issues
- * Increase Budgetary Support
- * Expand Volunteer Base
- * Work with Circuit Church Partners
- * Explore Possibility of a Bethany Adult Mission Trip

OBJECTIVES – STEWARDSHIP

Goal: Encourage a purposeful year-round stewardship lifestyle.

- ◆ Teach and Encourage the Biblical Concept of Tithing
- ◆ Continue Ongoing and Regular Assessment of Budget Priorities
- ◆ Develop a Long Term Financial Plan for Bethany
- ◆ Communicate with Members –
 - * Areas of Need (e.g. programming, outreach, property, staff, operating expenses)
 - * Sources of Income
 - * Status of Budget
 - * Pledge/Endowment Opportunities
 - * Expectation of Giving
 - * Offer Personal Financial Responsibility Classes/Forums
- ◆ Include Stewardship of the Environment (and coordinate with U.W. Preschool) –
 - * Recycling
 - * Energy Conservation
 - * Consider Allergy/Air Quality Issues in Furnishings, Fixtures, fragrance-free Cleaning Supplies, etc.

OBJECTIVES – WORSHIP

Goal: Provide inspiring worship experiences that tell the story of God’s love.

◆ Intensify Involvement –

- * Get Members Involved
 - consider a volunteer coordinator
 - expand volunteer base
 - reintroduce/utilize time and talent surveys
 - change process of recruiting volunteers
 - find alternative to clipboard system
- * Make Better Use of Lay Speakers
- * Maintain Adequate Staffing of Worship Committee

◆ Create Environment Conducive to Worship –

- * Maintain and Expand Excellent and Diverse Music Programs
- * Greeting
 - expand greeter training
 - provide curbside assistance; opening doors
- * Make Fellowship More Inviting
- * Create Kids Bags for Worship
- * Create Family Listening Area Outside Sanctuary

◆ Schedule for Flexibility and Variety –

- * Schedule Periodic One-Service Sundays
- * Provide Sunday School at 10:45 Service or Explore Other Family-Friendly Options
- * Explore Service Swapping/Blending of Styles
- * Explore Alternative Days/Times in Addition to Sunday Morning Worship (through circuit?)
- * Explore video/cable

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