

The three Rs

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2)

A guiding principle for our Ministry Initiatives process is Paul's teaching to discern the will of God. In all aspects, we seek transformation as we respond to how God is leading us in this time; not simply conforming and copying what others are doing, or even what we have done in the past, but seeking God's guidance as we build on the strengths and values with which we are blessed

Though delayed by February snows, each of our teams have met for a second time to begin laying out vision and values in each ministry area. We did this by asking: What do our strengths say about what is important to us? Some of the answers are in the column to the right, along with the names of the team members. Feel free to share your ideas and comments with any of these persons, particularly with Pastor Dave, Rozenna, and Brandon.

Again there were common threads emerging from our separate gatherings. One is the asset of being an intergenerational community, a rarity in our culture. This gives us a unique opportunity to interact and engage with one another in ways that build on the wisdom and experience of an older generation while incorporating the energy and ideas of younger ones.

Another common theme is recognize the importance and value of growth while retaining and enhancing who we are as this particular body of believers. Or, as we put it for our 275th Anniversary Celebration vision statement: Highlight aspects of our history that continue to provide meaning and guidance for our ministry and mission.

Please continue to pray for God's leading in this process so that we may truly seek the will of God and the mind of Christ in all that we do together.

REACH our Children - facilitator Rozenna Hartman
Goal: Promote spiritual nurture and development of families with children and youth.

Carrie Brenton, Jan Croasmun, Eric & Erin Fourhman, Lisa Konopinski, Cindy & Tony Miller, Kathy Miller, Katie Ort, Beth Osborne, Christine Shaffer, Kelly Shaub

What is important as we REACH our Children?

- knowing and supporting our children
- people and relationships vs. just numbers
- worship through music
- worship experiences accessible to all ages
- wisdom and history of older generation
- intergenerational relationships
- activities that involve the whole family
- faith that is ever-changing and growing

RESOURCE our Ministry - facilitator Pastor Dave
Goal: Discover and develop resources to support the ministry of the congregation.

Reg Baugher, Paul Boldosser, Randy Brant, Brian Challenger, Susan Feltch, Brett Hoffacker, Karl Lehman, Dawn & Matt Muir, Skip Wah

What is important as we RESOURCE Our Ministry?

- celebrating and using the gifts we have
- being a lasting presence in our community
- retaining identity as Brethren, as Black Rock
- inviting and welcoming others
- becoming a "family" based on spiritual ties
- worship of God and care for people
- being other-centered vs. self-centered
- growth in numbers, finances, and spirit

RENEW our Spirit - facilitator Brandon Grady
Goal: Spark and revive spiritual vitality to deepen relationships with God and one another.

Karen Alwine, Pat Challenger, Linda Covalt, Jill Hoffacker, Sandie Keller, Sharon Myers, Audrey Shisler, Cale Stickles, Mary Wunderlich

What is important as we RENEW Our Spirit?

- build on fellowship
- strengthening relationships
- emphasize scripture reading
- evangelize in helpful, healthy, hospitable ways
- involvement and ideas of on young families
- maintain what we have while moving forward
- more options for faith networking
- excitement for Christ