

Purpose: to create and sustain a *culture of invitation* in the congregation.

- Thoughts from cluster call (Cross Roads):
 - * Consider the various affinities among the people of the congregation (i.e. what do people like to do?). Find a few others in the church with the same interest and arrange an event for these people and guests.
 - * The suggestion was made for us to start with the smaller events and work toward the larger events.
 - * Followup with guests needs improvement.
 - * Suggestion was made to consider a bus ministry to Woodlands.
 - * Need to promote the team to the congregation.
 - * Consider doing a progressive dinner.

(From other churches)

- * Take advantage of focus events and small invitational events to help keep congregation focused.
- * Do things to train the congregation in the work of evangelism.
- * Followup with new families by gathering them around the table or a cup of coffee. See what *they* need, not what *we* need. Where are they in their journey?
- * Help people to see the mission field.
- * Suggested resources: *Just Walk Across the Room*, Bill Hybels; *Let Me Have a Witness*, Lillian Daniels; *Holy Conversations*, Richard Peace. (Maybe also selections from the *Unbinding* series by Martha Grace Reese)

- Where are we now? What are the next steps?
 - * Small invitational events. We are still working on getting cookouts accomplished. There may be a challenge on getting people comfortable in inviting out-of-church friends. Christmas time may provide another opportunity. Team members may be able to partner with willing hosts in order to coordinate seasonal gatherings in homes.

Working toward this end, we are going to have a basketball game (November 20) to raise funds for a local family. This will be a fun event with a team of young men taking on a team of “older guys.”

- * Affinity groups

- * Seasonal Opportunities
(A “For Us” event) Thanksgiving Dinner at 4:00 on Sunday, November 21. We will see if singing group from Huntington High will come to perform after the dinner.

Two groups for Christmas caroling will be organized. One will go to Chateaux Grove nursing home and the other will go into the surrounding community. Goal date is December 12. Jean Ann will look into getting fabric for making prayer squares to take to residents.

- * Welcoming Practices
Craig and Jean Ann will have Vista Print business cards designed that church members can keep and hand out to acquaintances. Another idea is to have reusable grocery bags made. Both of these would have a church logo imprinted.

We will have a design contest for a new church logo. Submissions should be returned the Sunday before the Thanksgiving Dinner, and could be judged by the people at that time. The design should be simple, with no more than two colors. Final edits may be suggested for the chosen design.

- * Equipping the congregation
We should attempt to gather a group of people from the congregation to attend Commission Possible II in Charleston on April 8-9.

- * Pastoral Leadership

- Preparation for onsite visit:
 - Learning to Invite* (handout)
 - Turnaround Congregations* (handout)
 - Growth, Transition and Change* (handout)
 - The Myth of the 200 Barrier* (book summary)

Upcoming Schedule:

October 23rd - Nickerson Onsite Visit. Sissonville 10:00-4:00 (Need attendance)

November 11 - Team meeting at 6:00

November 30 - Coaching Cluster Call (6:30?)

December 9 - Team meeting at 6:00