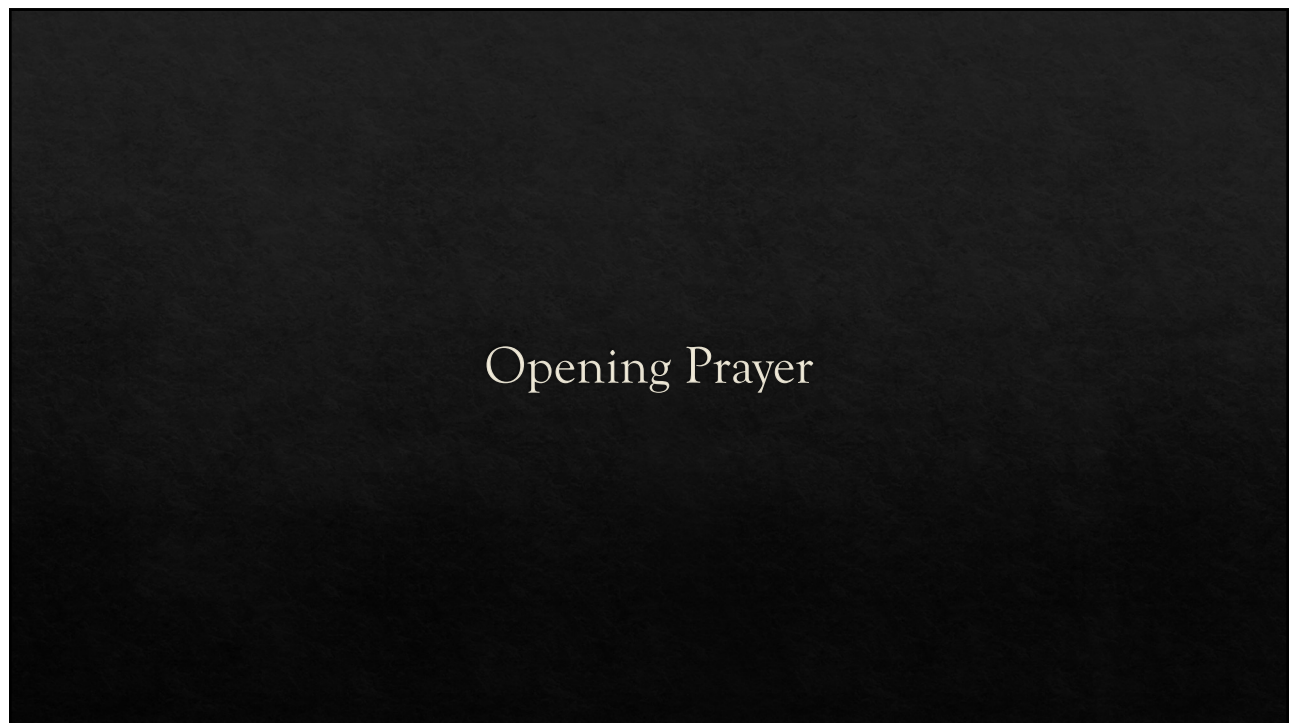


1



2

Devotion (Acts 1: 1-14, NRSV)

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

3

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

4

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

5

Waiting, Being, and
Discerning

"Ascension of the Lord." ©2019
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6

Systems and Success

7

Nick Saban



8

When are
championships won?

"live going up." ©2009 Copyright Chuck
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9

Healthy systems=health



♦ "Healthier." ©2009 Copyright Kevin Simmons. Licensed Under Creative Commons.

10

Healthy Systems Lead to Fruit

"rhymes with orange." ©2017
Copyright Chuck Robert Couse-Baker. Under
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11



Grinding/Farming

"Grinding." ©2013 Copyright Andrew Fysh. Under Creative Commons.

12

What would we be working towards?

13

- ◆ Mission and vision in the form of a story
- ◆ Goals
- ◆ Values?

14

What systems would need to be in place to help us live into our mission/vision/goals?

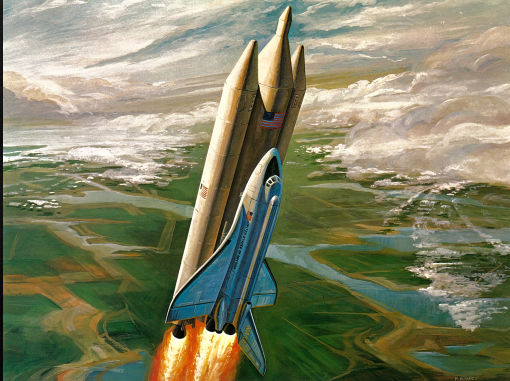
- ◊ Intentional Ministries
- ◊ Church Structure
- ◊ Teams
- ◊ Overarching Schedule
- ◊ Discipleship Pathway

15

What might the end result of our discernment look like?

16

Concept Art



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17

Trellis



"Rosenmonat Juni 002." ©2018 Copyright bratispirl.
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18

Sowing Seeds

"Parable of the Sower." ©2006 Copyright Fr Lawrence
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19

Mission and Vision

*Being Good News for Middletown by creating moments
of gratitude, joy, and community.*

20

Values

21

What guides our decision making?

- ◊ Mission
- ◊ Vision
- ◊ Values

22

Possible Values

- ◇ Loving God
- ◇ Loving People
- ◇ Faith Over Fear

23

Goals

- ◇ Intentionally design and execute three opportunities for gratitude a year
- ◇ Intentionally design and execute three opportunities for joy a year
- ◇ Intentionally design and execute three opportunities for community a year

24

Possible Intentional Ministries

25

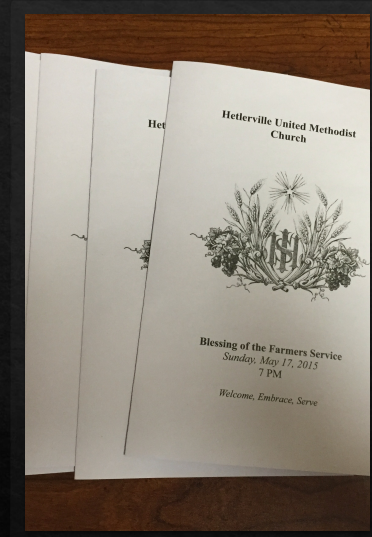
Thank you, meals, to people serving our
community



26

Create worship opportunities that might offer gratitude, joy, and community

Christmas hymn sing with Christmas cookies
A worship service to bless people who serve in our community



27

Neighborhood Groups



28

Community Events

Ice cream socials
Pop-up food events



29

Possible Church Structure

30

Possibility One

The Charge Conference
Church Council

Program and Ministry Committees

Worship

Creative Design Team

Logistics Team

Tech Team

Christian Education

Share and Care

Visitation Team

Extending the Table Team

Membership

Retention Team

Mission and Outreach

Administrative Committees

Board of Trustees

Committee on Finance

Committee on Nominations and Lay Development

Committee on Staff-Parish Relations

31

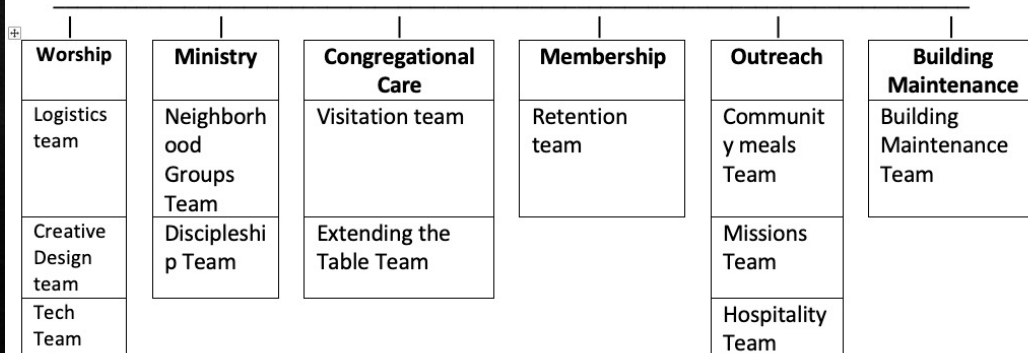
Possibility Two

The Charge Conference

Nominations Committee

Leadership Board

Pastor



32

Reoccurring Schedule

33

Sundays

- ◆ Sunday School
- ◆ Worship
- ◆ Money Counting and Recording
- ◆ Extending the Table (*Communion Sundays*)
- ◆ Membership Retention (*reach out to folks missing average worship attendance*)
- ◆ Hospitality Team (*reach out to visitors*)

34

Weekdays

- ◊ Bible Studies
- ◊ Neighborhood Group Meetings
- ◊ Choir Practice

35

Monthly

- ◊ Leadership Board Meetings
- ◊ Team Meetings
- ◊ Goal Events

36

Monthly Schedule

37

January
Commissioning of
Leaders

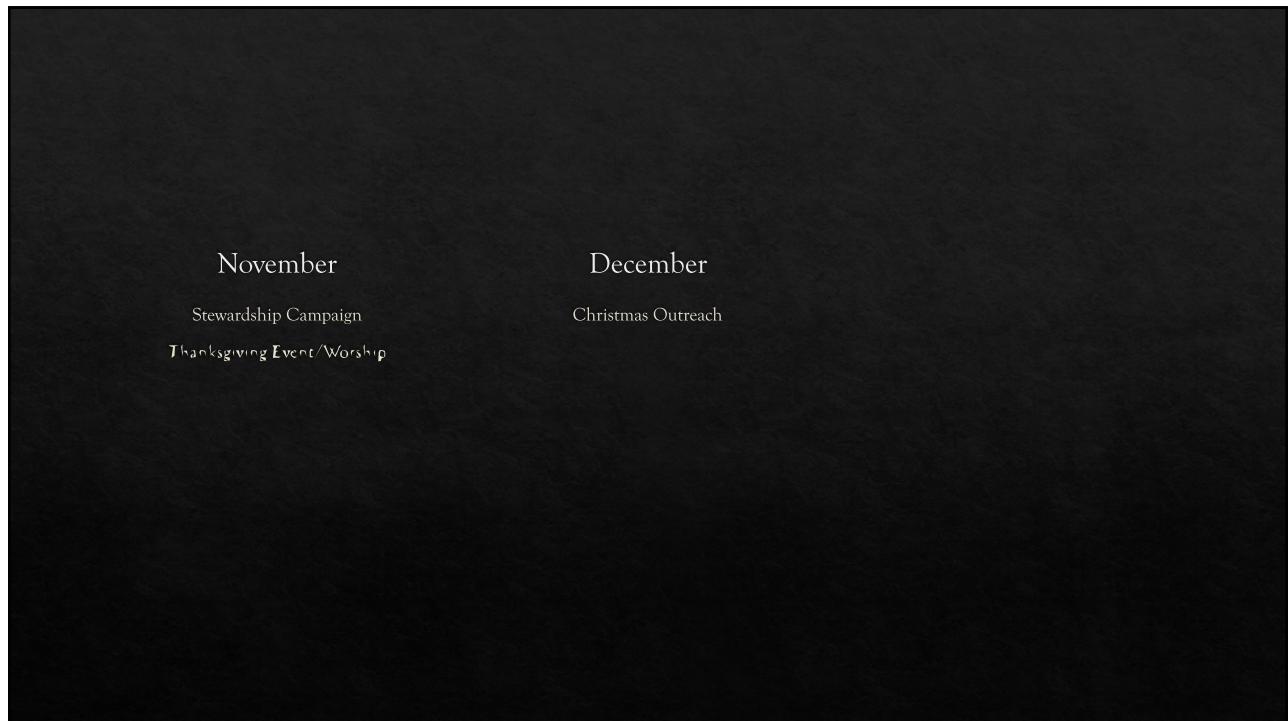
March
Leadership Retreat

June
Blessing of the
Graduates
VBS

38



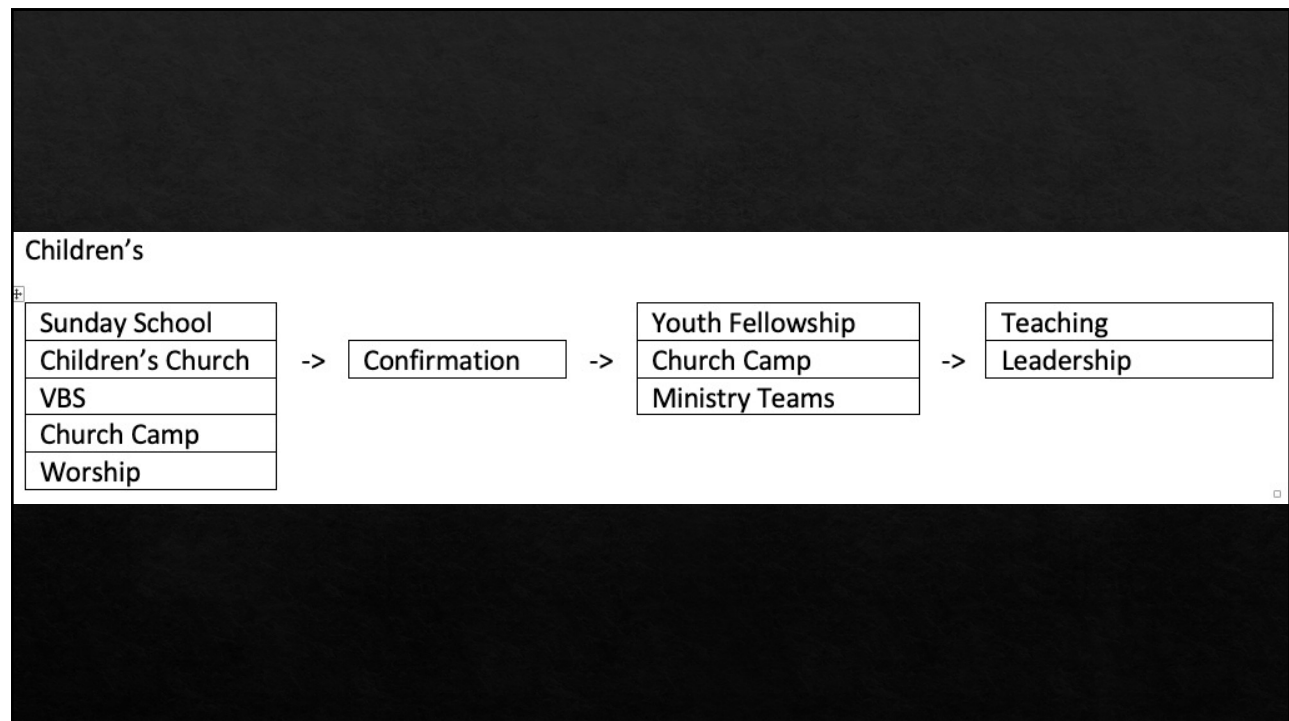
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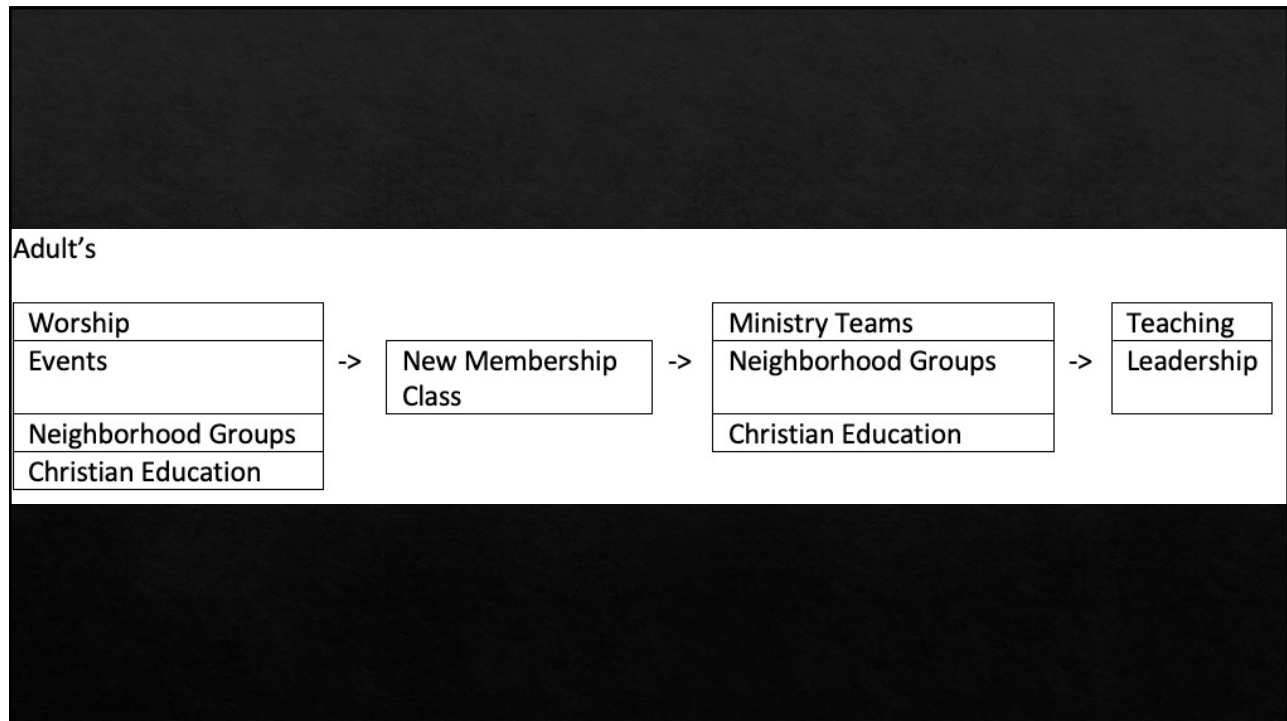
40

Discipleship Pathways

41



42



43

Are you willing to meet again?

44

Closing Thought

“If people can’t see what God is doing,
they stumble all over themselves;
But when they attend to what he reveals,
they are most blessed.”

Psalm 29: 18, *The Message*

45

Closing Prayer

46