

100 Days of Prayer

There is probably no greater event in the life of a congregation than the process of discerning whom God has prepared to lead the church in its next season of ministry. Bruce Bugbee, [Making God-honoring Pastoral Transitions](#)

The 100 Days of Prayer is a church wide activity to unite our entire congregation in a time of listening to the Holy Spirit and to one another. As we are in a time of transition, this process will not only unite us, it will also help the Consistory and Search Team to discern where the Spirit is at work and leading our congregation.

Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21, *NLT*). Because we have been given God's promises, we are sent to share them. We must develop an understanding of the church not so much as a group that is to be gathered, but as a people who have been scattered. We are the ones who have been sent.

God is sending us on a *spiritual* strategic journey to proclaim the good news of the coming Kingdom. This means our strategy must be more than programs and three-year goals. Our church's mission must arise directly from our church's spiritual life.

Prayer enables us to discern our mission. When rooted in contemplation, the fruits of Christian action grow healthy and strong. Immersed in prayer, we are able to live, love and serve with Jesus wherever God sends us.

Whenever God demands great things of the faithful, God calls them first to pray. Prayer connects us with the abundant life available in Jesus. Prayer connects us with each other. When we gather in a small prayer group and pray aloud for one another, we realize true community by listening together for God's voice.

Through prayer we are able to dialogue about our stories of faith and life, frustration and sadness, hope and possibility. By sharing our experiences of life and prayer, our vision of Jesus will be clearer, as will our understanding of where God is sending us and what God expects of us here.

Meeting in Triads. The heart of the 100 Days of Prayer is for as many people as are able to meet in triads. The goal is to meet 10 times over 100 Days. The meetings can happen in homes, at church, in coffee shops, or where ever it works for the triad.

Rhythm – All participants will receive a brief study for each meeting based on one of the 10 Healthy Missional Markers. The triad leader will pass out a new study at the end of each meeting for the next gathering. Participants reflect personally on the questions before each triad meeting. Then in the triad gathering, each person shares what they are discovering. At the end of each gathering, each person will share their key take away.

Everything in your triad is to remain confidential. The more you trust your group, the deeper you will be able to go in your conversations. Please focus on listening as each person speaks. Listening to each person share is more important than getting through all the questions on any of the 10 Healthy Missional Markers.

In the process of sharing, your group will have a number of good ideas. Some will engage the whole church, some may require significant change. The ideas we hope you will be most in tune to are the ones that you personally can engage. This is intended to be a corporate listening exercise with a very personal element to it.

After the triad has met 10 times, we would like for each triad to prepare a brief summary of what they feel was the most significant insights they discovered. These summaries will be shared with the Search Team and Consistory.

Centrality of the Word

- We believe that the Bible is the only perfect rule for faith, doctrine and conduct.
- Our preaching and teaching in all settings reflects careful preparation, relevance, and creativity.
- Our people are equipped and growing in their ability to study and apply Biblical truth in ways that lead to a scripturally integrated life.

***Introductions:** If you could pick one color to represent your life, what color would it be and why?

***Song:** Ancient Words

What word or phrase in this song says something meaningful to you?

#Read: Psalm 119:169-176

What does this passage say to you about God's word?

Now read it a second time, only this time replace the words used for God's word (promise, decrees, commands, etc.) with "Jesus." You may have to do a little grammatical correction, but don't be too rigid on getting this to work. Write this out.

Now as you read it with "Jesus" in the verses, what does it say to you?

What is the most meaningful way for you to engage scripture?

What biblical story is similar to your own faith story?

***What biblical story is similar to our community at Faith Church?**

What is the most significant thing you hear God saying to you about this Healthy Missional Marker?

***How can we make God's Word more central in the life of our church?**

***How would you encourage a person to make God's Word more central in their life?**

***Prayer:** Spend a few minutes sharing the things you are grateful for and the things that are weighing on your heart and mind. Take time to pray together. Please be sensitive to everyone's comfort level for praying aloud. You are encouraged to pray at least a short prayer. A nice way to start is for everyone to pray for the person on their right. Pray for at least one thing you heard this person share in the gathering.

Pray for the Search Team as they do the work of developing a church profile, pastoral job description, and identify potential candidates.

***Benediction:** Briefly have each person say a word of thanks for the other two people in the group. Depart with the peace of Jesus.

***Read the Pathway Prayer together.**

Extra credit: Listen to this podcast. www.transformingcenter.org/category/podcast/ go to season one episode 4, Engaging the Scriptures for Transformation

* Indicates items that can be done together when you meet

Indicates items to do as 'home work' prior to meeting