

Church Visioning Forum 1 - PURPOSE (Sunday [date], 12 – 2pm)

Need: workbooks, ppt presentation, pens/pencils, laptop, data projector, A3 paper, marker pens, projector pages to tally feedback.

Tasks: take notes on laptop [name]; arrange technical setup - laptop from front to screen, roving microphones [name]; set up the room - tables & chairs [name]

Set up: chairs around tables, groups of 6-8 (leader at each table); A3 paper, textas, pens on each table; roving microphones; able to operate laptop from front through data projector

Time	Content	Need	Who										
12noon 5 min	Welcome & prayer around tables refer purpose passages for prayer focus if you like												
12.05 10 min	Background Info Why are we doing this? E.g. changing community, pastoral transition, NCLS insights, ...	slides, workbook											
12.15 5 min	Explain foundational concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none">3 questions: Churches need to have an <u>honest picture</u> of who they are Churches need to have <u>shared vision</u> of where they are going (not just the vision of the leaders or pastor but discerned and owned by the congregation as a whole) They need to have a <u>clear understanding</u> of the next step to take as they move forward.3 assumptions: <u>Healthy Churches grow!</u> (<i>maybe numerical, spiritual, financial, ministry, emotional</i>). The <u>Holy Spirit</u> is the one that causes churches to grow, not these forums! <i>What issues does the HS raise for us through the process?</i> <u>Prayer</u> is foundational for a healthy church. <i>We need to pray together through this process.</i>	slides, workbook											
12.20 20 min	Good memories exercise <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Have people fill out the questions on page individually 5minb. Share in small groups – write down anything that arises more than once. 5minc. Facilitator asks each group to give an answer from their sheet. Note down if other groups had the same answer. Record good memories on computer (projected). 10min <i>Ask: Why is this a good memory? What is the underlying ‘value’ expressed? (Say: we’ll come back to this later)</i>	workbook, A3 paper & pens, computer page ready for feedback, <u>[name]</u> to record											
12.40 15 min	Life-cycle of a congregation Revisioning is a key aspect for churches. Churches tend to think they are what they were, and to look for superficial explanations of current challenges. Superficial explanations lead to superficial treatments / responses that avoid the real problems: <table><tr><th>Stage</th><th>Like</th></tr><tr><td>Maturity NEEDS improvement</td><td>Scratch NEEDS band-aid</td></tr><tr><td>Slipping NEEDS refocus</td><td>Deep cut NEEDS stitching</td></tr><tr><td>Decline NEEDS restructure</td><td>Severely damaged limbs NEED reconstructive surgery</td></tr><tr><td>Death NEEDS die & rebirth</td><td>Gangrene or massive tissue & blood loss NEEDS amputation</td></tr></table> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the tendency of churches to deny the decline & under-respond- to ignore the congregational cold; treat congregational pneumonia with aspirin; embalm with penicillin <i>Don’t apply a bandaid when reconstructive surgery is required.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- no gain for underestimating decline; no penalty for overestimating decline- have people mark where they think our church is at on that scale	Stage	Like	Maturity NEEDS improvement	Scratch NEEDS band-aid	Slipping NEEDS refocus	Deep cut NEEDS stitching	Decline NEEDS restructure	Severely damaged limbs NEED reconstructive surgery	Death NEEDS die & rebirth	Gangrene or massive tissue & blood loss NEEDS amputation	tear off page, slides	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collect & score to feedback later - this is normal, a life-cycle; no-one's 'fault' 		
12.55 5 min	Critical Issues This is aimed at issues that the church will need to face over the next 2 years. There is a tear off page at the end of the workbook. This should be anonymous.	tear-off page	
1pm 5 min	Senior Pastor shares dreams or opportunities they are noticing	workbook notes page	
1.05 10 min	The importance of Purpose, Values & Vision <i>Review slides with reference to handout: train diagram & definitions / concepts.</i> Focussing today on <u>purpose</u> ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ideas usually straightforward, but worth formulating own clear statement - usually the most straightforward, but still fundamentally important - complements a vision statement that is more concrete looking forward for this church at this time in this place. 	slides, workbook	
1.15 25 min (7 min each section)	Purpose Reflection <u>individually</u> : read & reflect on passages - <i>what should be included in our church purpose statement?</i> - list <u>ideas</u> (not about how we word it) <u>small groups</u> : share list with each other - one person records ideas that arise more than once amongst group members <u>large group</u> : each small group shares one point (until list is exhausted) noting how many groups have the same answer >>the Visioning Team will draft a purpose statement based on what we have received here today, to distribute & hopefully confirm (with or without changes) at next CVF (<i>possible refining activity</i>)	workbook, A3 paper & markers, computer feedback page ready, <u>[name]</u> to record	
1.40 20 min	Values identification exercise <ol style="list-style-type: none"> People choose up to 9 values they think the church has at the present time (not what it needs & not personal values) Read through and give a brief explanation of the values Circle 9 of the values (don't need to be prioritised) Read through each & people raise hand if one of their 9 choices. As you go enter the information on the scoring sheet provided. Work out which are the top 9 values. Report these 9 top values back to the group. Ask the group if they think this is roughly descriptive of the church. 	workbook, pens, scoring sheet on computer feedback page, <u>[name]</u> to record	
2pm	Close in prayer		

Follow-up

- inclusion of children – [name] will observe & plan for kids input re purpose next Sunday
- visioning team drafts options for purpose statement to distribute for activity 'refining a purpose statement'
- collate 'critical issues' for feedback at future CVF
- collate 'life-cycle' for feedback at future CVF