

The Congregational Formation and Transformation Committee seeks to partner with churches who are seeking revitalization.

Revitalize: to impart new life, to restore to an active condition.

Our team will assist churches in reviewing seven areas that are essential for church renewal:

1. Demographic Data
2. Pastoral Leadership
3. Physical Space: Opportunities and Constraints
4. Worship Attendance Trends
5. Mission, Discipleship, Evangelism and Outreach
6. Digital Presence
7. Financial Sustainability

The CFTC believes that the Holy Spirit's guidance is essential to the renewal process. In essence, this process is a partnership between the church and the committee as we commit to being led by the Spirit.

Here is a brief overview of each area:

1. Demographic Data

Does the church's demographics match the neighborhood around the church? Sometimes a church that have been in one location for a long time will gradually no longer reflect their neighborhood. We will study ways for churches to connect with their immediate neighbors.

We will study the Mission Insite data for a 5 mile radius around the church to discern what opportunities and challenges are present.

2. Pastoral Leadership

We will explore pastoral call, fit and congregational culture. A part of this will be studying past pastoral trends at your church. In addition, we will provide ways to support your current pastoral leadership through continuing education, training, self-care, and more.

3. Physical Space: Opportunities and Constraints

Does the church's building match the current needs of the congregation? We will study ways the current space helps and hinders the church's current ministry. Included in this is a study of ongoing maintenance costs, space utilization, aesthetics, financial burden, building capability and more.

We will brainstorm ways the physical space can be used by the church and by the community.

4. Worship Attendance Trends

What picture does the past ten years of worship attendance data show? Together we will study the numbers to help project where the church may be in the next 5 years. These trends can provide the data that is needed to create new goals and dreams for the future.

5. Mission, Discipleship, Evangelism and Outreach

Over time churches tend to draw inward, focusing more of their time, energy and money on their current members. We will explore ways for the church to become more outward focused. We will study current mission, discipleship and outreach opportunities within the church's community. This will also include exploring advertising and publicity.

6. Digital Presence

We will explore opportunities for a digital presence i.e. website, social media, streaming, etc.

7. Financial Sustainability

We will review past financial trends to determine future sustainability. How are your finances supporting or hindering your current ministry?

Next Steps

If your church is interested in learning more about this process, please e-mail Rev. David Bonnema at david@unitypres.org.

Let David know which of the 7 areas your church wants to explore. You may want to discuss just one or two areas, or you may want to study all seven! David will assign a coach from the CFTC to meet with your church and lead a discussion about your chosen area(s).