



vibrantchurch
I N I T I A T I V E

FUMC Town Hall Meeting

July 30, 2017

FUMC Town Hall Meeting



If you have any questions, these will be answered at the end.

Please write your question on one of the index cards found at the tables. The cards will be picked up and the question asked.

OR

If you prefer, you can write your question and write PRIVATE, your name, and phone number on the card, and someone will contact you with an answer.

FUMC Town Hall Meeting

Order of presentations

- Vision Team
- Disciple Making Team
- Hospitality Team
- Space Utilization
- Community Connections Team
- Worship Excellence Team
- Communication Team
- Council - Finances - 2017 1st Half
- Question & Answer

Vision Team

July 2017

The Vision Statement was completed and rolled out
in Spring 2017:

Rooted in Christ...Branching out in Faith...
*Disciples **Growing** Disciples*

At First UMC-Orange
we grow Disciples who grow Disciples!

It is just that simple!
It's what we do!

From revival and renewed spirit through worship, we move people from the sanctuary to the community delivering God's message of hope and grace through Jesus Christ. Whenever and wherever we come together, we do so in His Name, modeling His Grace and sharing His Word.

For saints and seekers; for individuals and families; for those more or less fortunate; for young and old alike....The good news is for all people. We are the voices and the hands branching out in Faith to encourage and support people.

We provide worship, programs and activities for families and individuals that will help you take God's word and apply it to *your* circumstances so He can change *your* life in ways you knew not possible.

Through Christ, we will facilitate the
transformation
of individuals into His people and
our community into His community!

At First UMC-Orange, we **grow** disciples
who **grow** disciples!
It is just that simple!
It's what we do!

Current Tasks of the Vision Team:

- 1) Develop the **Background Vision** - Look at three years in the future and decide on the top four things your ministry (church) should be focusing on to achieve the results that you want.
 - Vibrant Services
 - Outreach & Communication
 - Discipleship Education
 - Growth – Spiritual and Numbers Served
-

Current Tasks of the Vision Team:

- 2) Develop your **Midground Vision** -
Designed to inspire people and stretch their thinking about what might be possible.
What is the one most important thing that will demonstrate and motivate progress toward the long-range vision?

 - 3) Develop the **Foreground Vision** -
Four specific initiatives to be started in the next 90 days.
-

- Continue to communicate the vision statement and use it as a guideline for developing programs and reaching goals.
 - Develop “drivers” and get feedback to judge success—
Okay Church, how did you do inviting people to a small group this week? (It doesn’t have to be your small group, it can be any group that is associated with the church.)
 - What stories do the members have—develop ways to communicate those stories.
-


- Involve everyone!! Where are we now... are we reaching our goals?
 - Disciples **growing** Disciples!!!
-

FUMC Town Hall Meeting

Order of presentations

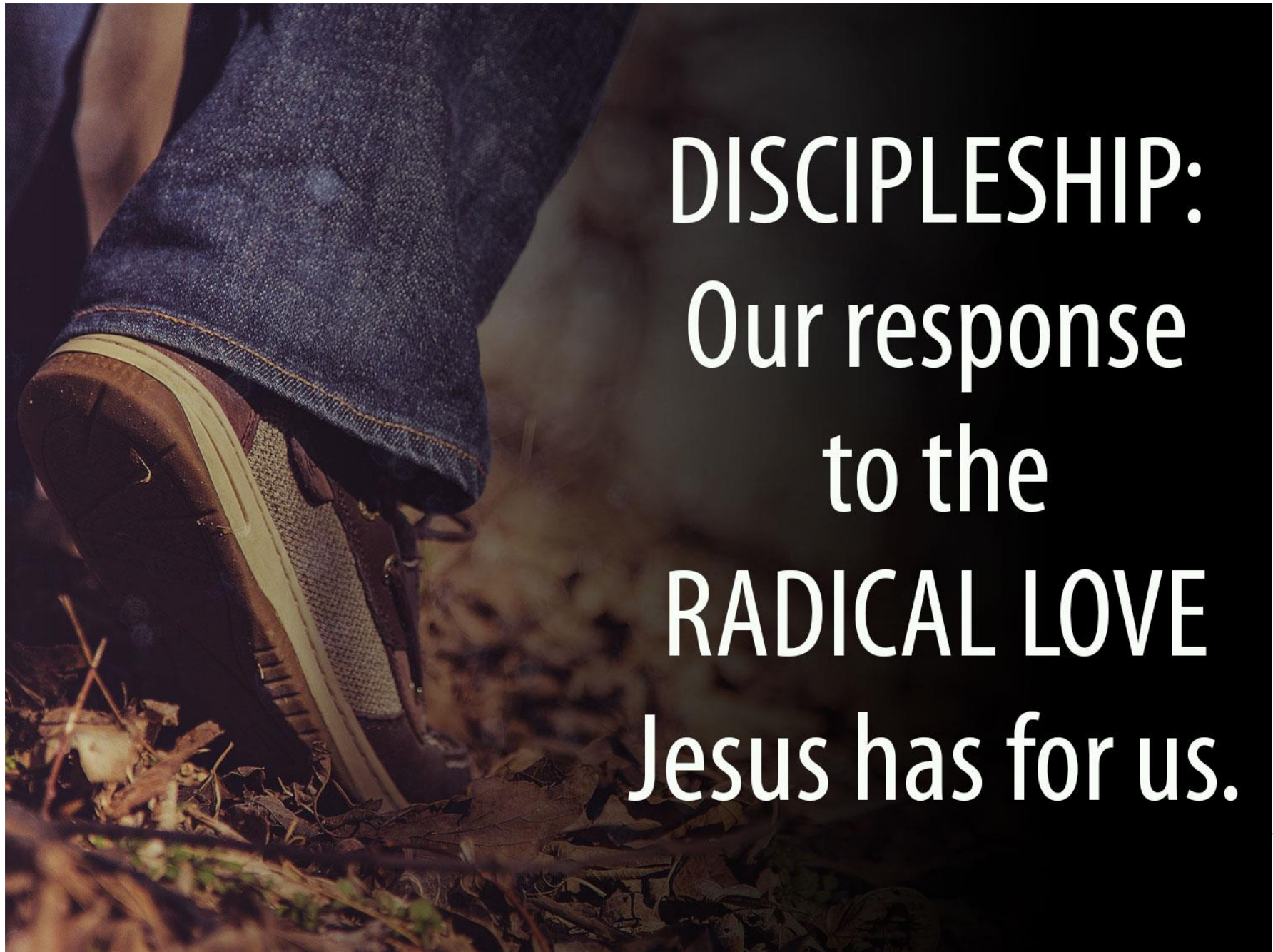
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DiscipleMakers



*Go therefore
and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit*

Matthew 28:19 (NRSV)



DISCIPLESHIP:
Our response
to the
RADICAL LOVE
Jesus has for us.



Six Pathways to Discipleship



Prayer

1. Emphasis on Prayer in our fall Sunday School programs. Contacted teachers and asked them to choose a program to help us grow in prayer. This includes youth and children.
2. Ladies' Prayer Bible Study - Sunday evening starting in September

Tithing

1. Work with children and youth to explain the importance of tithing:
 - ▶ Church Expenses
 - ▶ Mission Opportunities
2. Children's Moment

Worship - Attendance

1. Compare Sunday School attendance with Worship attendance
2. Sunday School has a plan for contacting members when they miss
Talked about a more intentional plan for members missing worship

Culture of Invitation



Reading Scripture

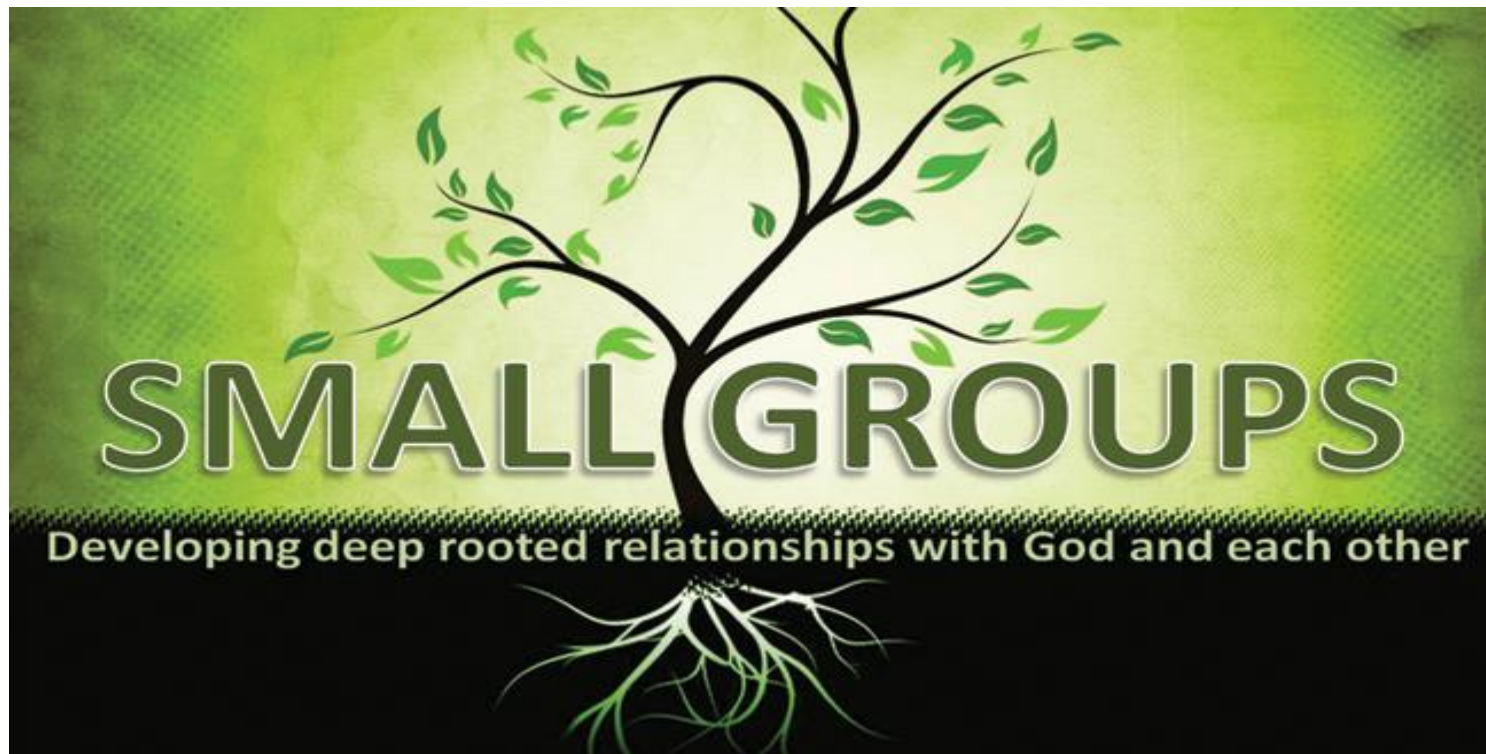
1. The importance of reading scripture daily - with reflection / journaling.
2. Daily Scripture offered on website
3. Websites for daily scripture on Connect Cards
4. U-Version Bible Reading, K-Love, UpperRoom, Biblegate, Faith GateWay
5. Bible verse for the week on the Connect Card - encourage members to read verse

“It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people.”

— John Wesley

I know what I'm supposed to do - to grow spiritually, but without encouragement, I struggle.

#UMC Wesleyan Small Groups



Small Groups

1. Article for September newsletter - the importance of small groups
2. Present opportunities: Sunday School, Wednesday Night Live, Ladies' Bible Study, Senior Sisters, 4G Men's Group, Unfinished Crafters

Small Groups

3. Interest groups - add to Connect Card (short term) to get ideas and facilitators - can meet elsewhere
4. Four families have offered to open their homes to Bible Studies.
(from survey)

Mission / Service Opportunities

1. Opportunities to serve through the church - Ex: Lamar-Orange, Shopping Trip, Trash Off, etc.
2. Opportunities to serve outside of the church - Ex: Service League, Field of Plenty, GOALS, etc.



**SHARE YOUR
GOD-STORY**



1. Article in August newsletter
2. Talked with Sunday School teachers about beginning their class with a short 2-3 minute God Story - Praise Report - *My Witness*

“how you showed Christ to others

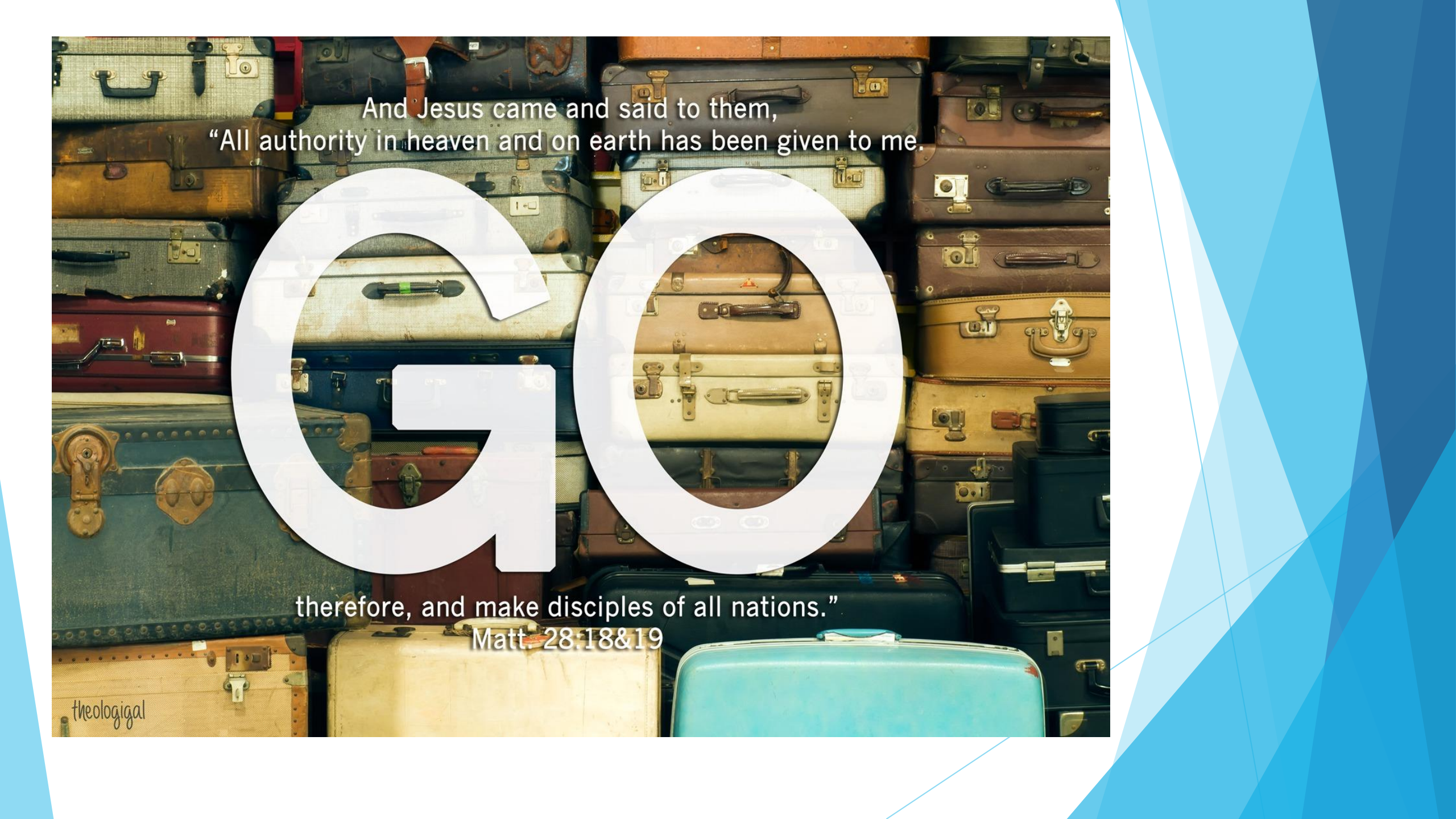
OR

how someone shared their love of Christ with you”

3. Will talk to small group leaders about also sharing God Stories at their meeting
4. We need to be comfortable sharing them with one another so that we can share with others outside of FUMC.
5. We have discussed members telling their God Story during the services or any with a video.

TO DO:

1. Develop a brochure -
 Becoming a Disciple
2. One Time sessions - Ex: Fire Safety,
 Funeral / Memorial planning, etc.
 Looking for presenters and
 facilitators to plan the sessions for
 Sunday evening or weekday morning



And Jesus came and said to them,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

GO

therefore, and make disciples of all nations.”

Matt. 28:18&19

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Hospitality Team

JULY 2017 TOWN HALL

Hospitality Team



Hospitality Team



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FUMC Town Hall Meeting



Space Utilization Team

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Community Connections Team

July 2017

Community Connections Team

Prescription #5: Improve Relational Bridge-Building

In consultation with the Coach, the Pastor will appoint a 5–7 person Community Connection Team to lead and facilitate the building of bridges to the community.

Prior to its first meeting, the Community Connection Team will read *Get Their Name: How to Grow Your Church by Building New Relationships* by Bob Farr.

This team will have its first meeting on or before Sept. 30, 2016, to discuss ideas from the book and begin to lay out the following activities of the church for 2017:

Community Connections Team

- Research interviews with local officials, chief of police, fire chief, council members, local public health department, school principals and other local churches—using, as a foundation, the community study provided to the VCI Team—by November 30, 2016.
- Conduct two community events (at no charge to the public and not specifically for our members) to reach new people, build relationships, and invite them to worship. To be completed, one in the spring of 2017 and one in the fall of 2017, with at least one of these two events being held outside the church campus.

Community Connections Team

- **Conduct two events to go out into the community to serve others and visibly share God's love to be completed anytime in the 2017 calendar year.**
- **The intention is for the entire church to be involved (in some form or fashion) in all of these events. The team will plan, facilitate and evaluate these events and then will continue and/or adjust them for the coming years based on their fruitfulness. The team will also delegate a process for guest follow-up immediately after these special events.**

Community Connections Team

Current Status:

- Created men's group (Vision and Focus are still in discussion)
 - Met twice already with double digit attendance.
 - Next meeting August 3 (meeting first Thursday of every month). Currently meeting at Stephen Lee's House.
 - Grilling for Annual fundraiser (August 20)

Community Connections Team

Event Ideas:

- On Campus “Still in discussion”
- Off Campus “Still in discussion”
examples–Hamburger Sunday in the park?
Fall Calendar
- Looking to Sponsor Potato Drop for next year?
Maybe tie in to an event

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Worship Excellence Team

STATUS REPORT FOR JULY 30, 2017, TOWN HALL MEETING

Overview

- ▶ Worship Excellence Team Membership
- ▶ Characteristics of Effective Worship at First United Methodist Church, Orange (FUMC)
- ▶ Our Purpose
- ▶ Vision for Worship

Membership

- ▶ Members serve for a maximum two-year term. The team must include at least two people who are under the age of 35 and one representative from the Youth Council

Pastor John Warren (All Services)

Kaylin Abshire (9 AM Service;
Under 35; Youth Council)

Jim Brown (9 AM Service; Chair)

Dina Defrates (9 AM Service)

Brittany Harmon-Allen

(9 AM Service; Under 35)

Lori Kratzer (9 AM Service)

Betty Merchant
(11 AM Service)

Lauren Fruge' Peet
(9 AM Service)

Nancy Vincent
(8 AM Service)

Characteristics of “Effective Worship” at FUMC Orange, TX

- ▶ Forms the basis for discipleship and social transformation
 - ▶ Mission Statement:
To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
 - ▶ Vision Statement:
Rooted in Christ ...
Branching Out in Faith ...
Disciples Growing Disciples

Characteristics of “Effective Worship” at FUMC Orange, TX

- ▶ **Believer or nonbeliever, saint or sinner:**
 - ▶ encounter a holy and living God through the Holy Spirit, and in that encounter confess their brokenness, discover God’s grace, and are made new (experience healing and transformation)

Our Purpose

- ▶ First UMC's purpose is to grow disciples who grow disciples. It is just that simple! We are not just people getting together to sit in a pew on Sunday mornings, although our wonderful worship services revive and renew our spirit.

The church is about helping people move from the sanctuary to the community with a message of hope and grace that changes people's lives.

Our Purpose

- ▶ At First UMC, we believe that every time we come together—whether in a worship service, a small group gathering, or a Bible study—God is there and can speak a word that has the possibility to change lives forever.

Everything we do at First UMC has the purpose of helping people move to a place in life where each person may receive a fresh word from God. **And this is exciting!**

Vision for Worship

- ▶ Congregational unity in support of Vision Statement:
Rooted in Christ ... Branching Out in Faith ...
Disciples Growing Disciples
- ▶ Entertaining the idea of remodeling the Sanctuary
 - ▶ Allow Traditional and Praise Services to be held in the same worship space at their respective times
 - ▶ Maximize benefits to congregation
 - ▶ Cost savings
 - ▶ Return Family Life Center to its intended purposes
 - ▶ Youth activities, Church activities, and Community activities

Vision for Worship

- ▶ Worship Excellence Team to function as Worship Design Team
 - ▶ Working on sermon series on *Mission and Vision Statement*
- ▶ Saturday evening service in the Chapel

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vibrantchurch
I N I T I A T I V E

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM
JULY 2017

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Membership:

- Molly Abshire
- Trisha Anderson
- Randall Bridges
- Marcia Brown
- Dalayna Sandlin
- Ginger Williams
- Pastor John Warren

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



- **Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication**
 1. Read and discuss *The Social Media Why*.
 2. Schedule a communications workshop for the team to determine best practices and formulate a plan for overall church communication in internal and external audiences.

■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

3. Review guest follow-up procedures and make recommendations for an improved process, using two resources for reference *Fusion* and *Get Their Name: How to Grow Your Church by Building New Relationships*.

Upon approval of the Pastor, begin to implement the improved process.

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

4. Refresh church website to improve navigation and organization, showcasing more photos, sharing stories of life transformation, fixing broken links, and providing targeted and robust information with newcomers in mind.

To ensure that all date-sensitive content is current, the website should be reviewed and maintained by a designated person from the Communication Team on a weekly basis.

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

I. Read and discuss *The Social Media Why*.

- Created new Instagram and a new Twitter account ([fumcorangetx](#)) in addition to our existing Facebook account.
- Encourage members to “check in” on Facebook for Sunday services and share FUMC posts with their friends.
- Post items that encourage people to visit our website.
Upcoming events, sermons, services, pictures of activities, etc.

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

2. Schedule a communications workshop to determine best practices and formulate a plan for overall church communication in internal and external audiences.

- Workshop held Sunday, February 26
- Newsletter information updated
- Bulletins – one format so members at all services get same information
- Postcards – members give to friends to invite to May choir concert
- Working on
 - Updating FUMC Brochure
 - Creating Business Cards to hand out to people

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



- **Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication**
 - Events for rest of 2017 on a promotion/communication planning calendar.
 - news@fumcorange.org – use new online form (located on website)

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

🌐 fumcorange.org



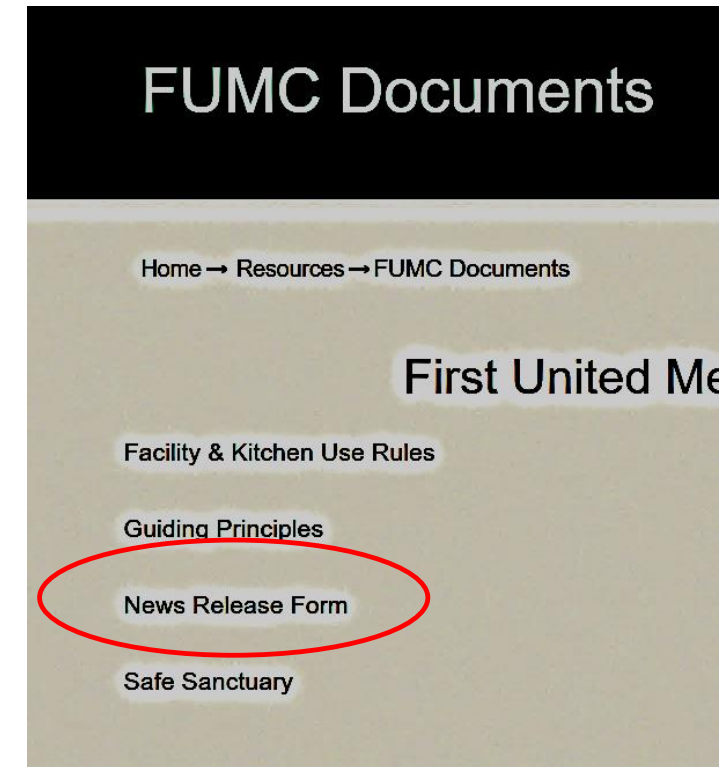
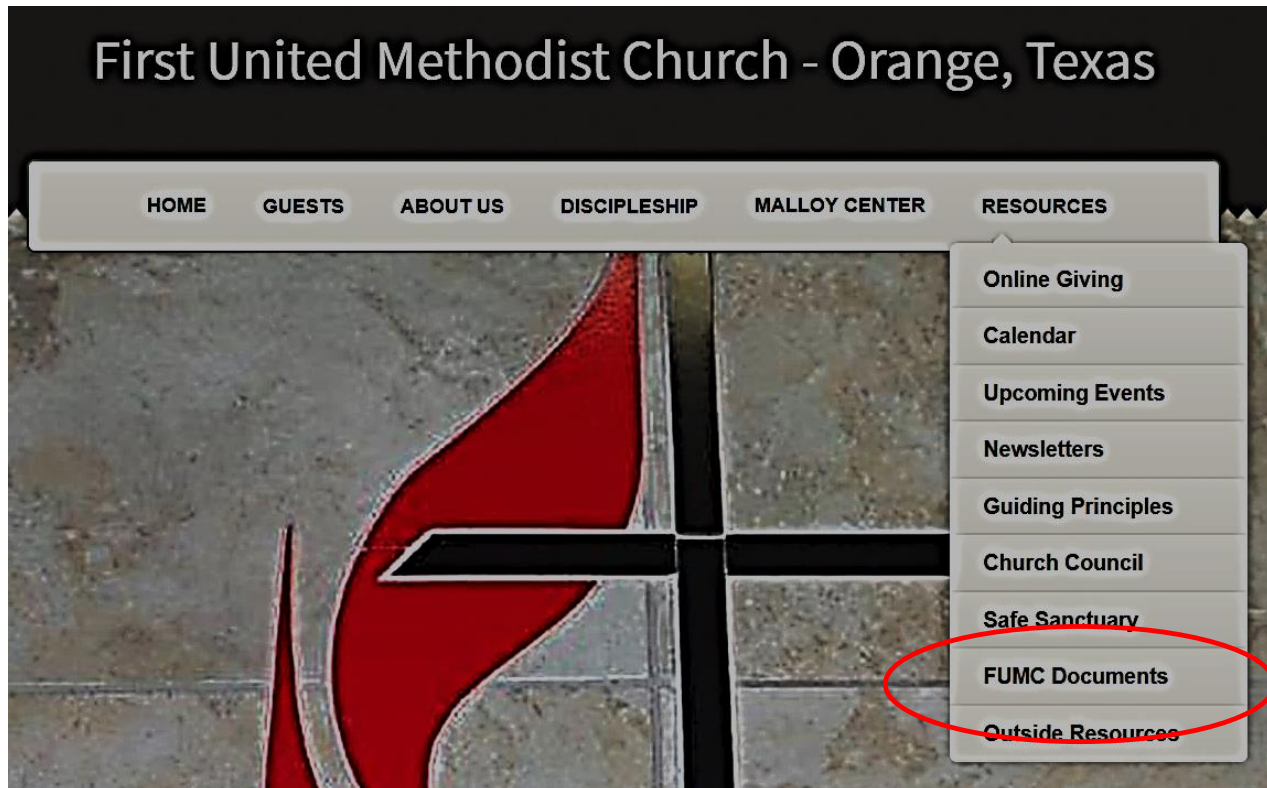
QUICK LINKS

- Contact Us
- Service & Class Times
- Map & Directions
- Prayer Requests
- Calendar
- Online Giving
- Our Pastor
- Our Staff
- News Release Form

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication



VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

WUFOO

First United Methodist Church–Orange NEWS RELEASE

This completed form is sent to news@fumcorange.org. You may also print it out and bring to the church office by the deadlines below.

Activity *

Activity Date(s) *

Contact Name *
First Last

Contact Email

Contact Phone Number * - -
#####

Please provide complete information for written article (edits may be necessary). Include who, what, when (dates and time), where, why, and so what? *

Attachments? Email to news@fumcorange.org
If you have created a flyer or other information, please send it!
If possible, send jpg pictures (with names of those in picture).

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

Promotion Deadlines

To promote this activity, please submit by the deadlines:

Email to congregation--As needed

Event Handout/Postcard--One month before event

Church Newsletter--20th of the month prior

Local News Media--3 weeks before event

FUMC Website*--2-3 weeks before event

Facebook/Instagram/Twitter*--2-3 weeks before event

Bulletin--Tuesday before service

Announcements/PowerPoints during Sunday Services--Tuesday before service

* Social media/website = Contact phone numbers/email addresses may be public if part of event. Once completed, the event will be removed from FUMC Upcoming Events webpage.

Do you want this information also removed from social media? Yes No

[Submit](#)

[Report Abuse](#)

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

3. Review guest follow-up procedures and make recommendations for an improved process, using two resources for reference *Fusion* and *Get Their Name: How to Grow Your Church by Building New Relationships*. Upon approval of the Pastor, begin to implement the improved process.

■ Connect Cards

- Guest Follow-Up – Each time a person visits, they will receive intentional information—emails, personal letters, etc.

- 1st Time visitor – Email from the Pastor & a note from the church

- 2nd Time visitor – Letter (Volunteer members help write letters)

- Both get Sonic cards

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



- **Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication**
 - Welcome Center coordinator – Priscella Burns
 - Bakers for Christ – Sundays assigned quarterly
 - Welcome Banner for Welcome Center
 - Welcome Center Greeters – Plan to have 2 members serve as Welcome Center Greeters each Sunday to welcome members and guests and provide information (SS locations, nursery, services, etc.)

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



■ Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication

4. Refresh church website to improve navigation and organization, showcasing more photos, sharing stories of life transformation, fixing broken links, and providing targeted and robust information with newcomers in mind.

To ensure that all date-sensitive content is current, the website should be reviewed and maintained by a designated person from the Communication Team on a weekly basis.

- New website launched February 28
- Website being kept updated (Upcoming Events & Calendar)
- Updates or new information should be sent to news@
- Requesting pictures of events – also send to news@

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



- **Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication**
 - At the July meeting with Coach Marilyn Wadkins, she said the VCI Communications Team had completed all four of our prescriptions!

Now what?

VCI COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



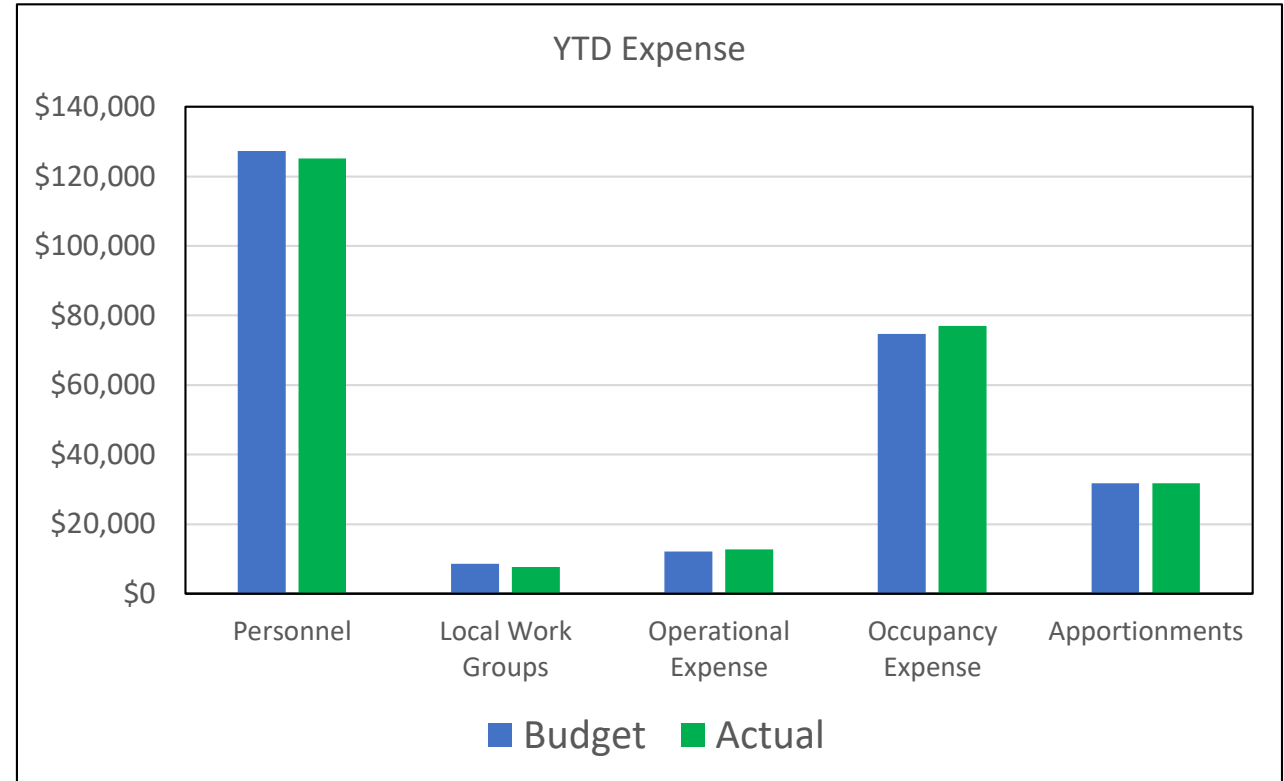
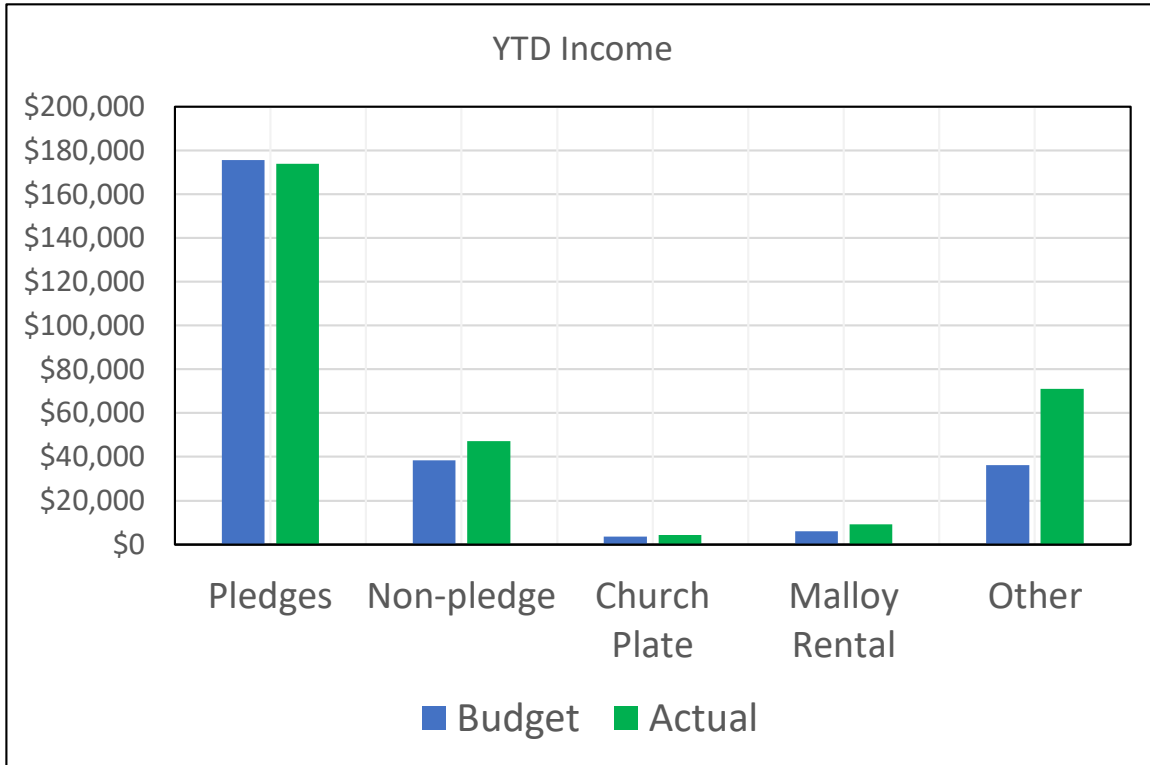
- **Prescription – Refine Strategies for Communication**
 - These prescriptions are the starting point – we are now determining what tasks/responsibilities must be ongoing to address the original concern in the report.
 - Once these tasks/responsibilities are identified, they will be recommended to the Nominations Team. The Nominations Team will put together the specific Task Teams who will continue this work.

FUMC Town Hall Meeting

Order of presentations

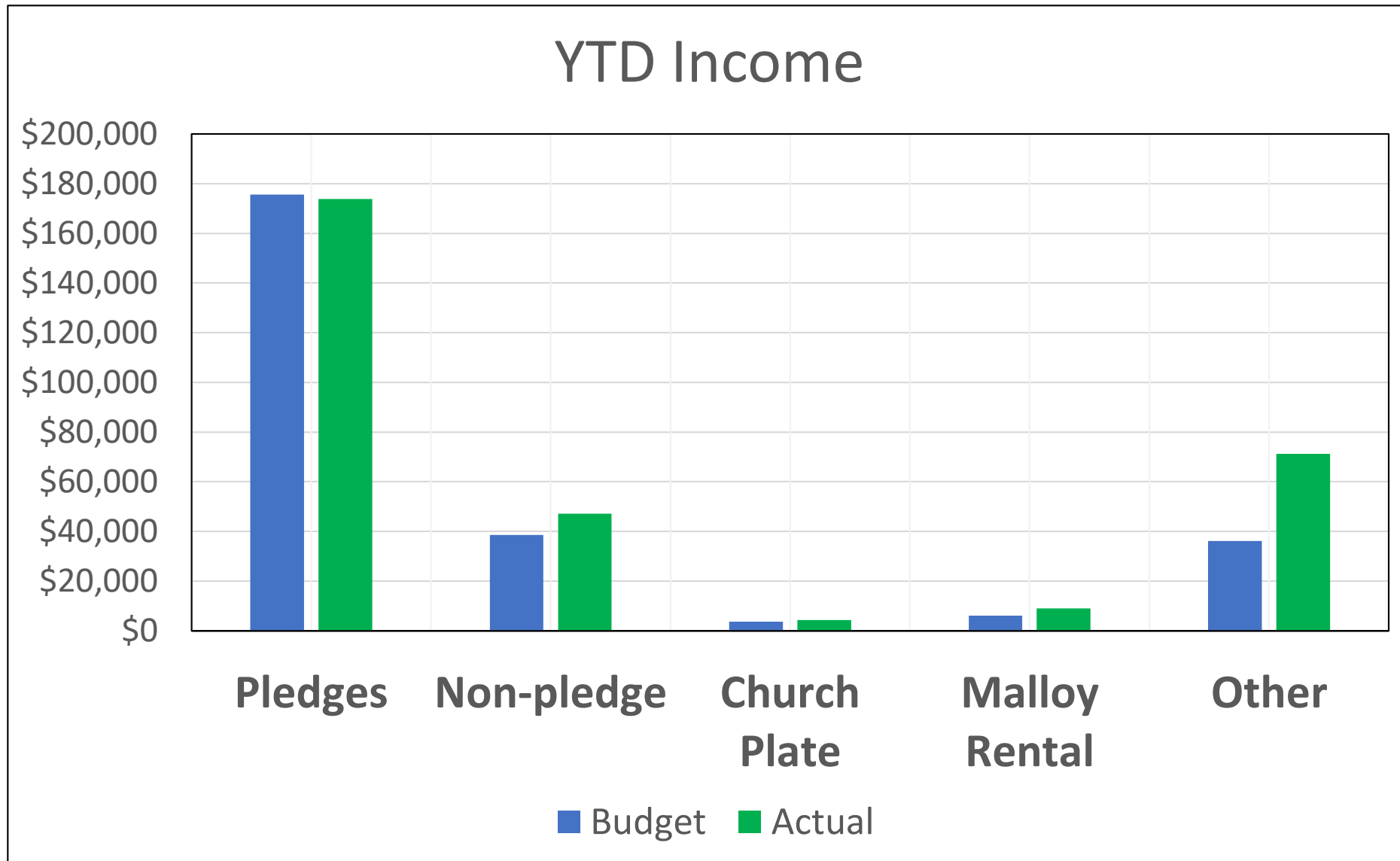
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First Half 2017 Financial Survey



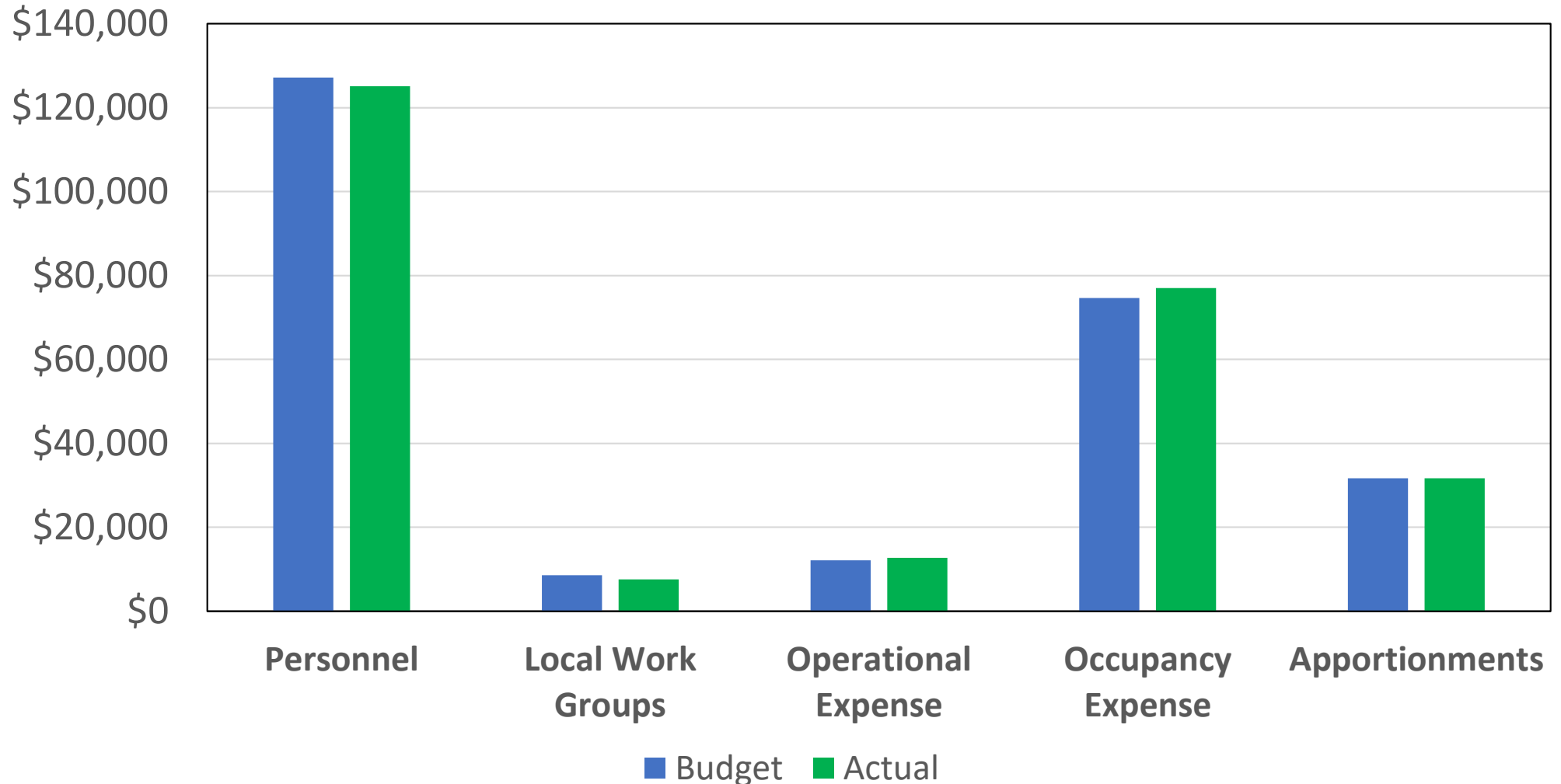
	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Income	\$259,898	\$305,617
Expense	\$254,268	\$254,118
Net Income	\$5,630	\$51,498

First Half 2017 Financial Survey



First Half 2017 Financial Survey

YTD Expense



First Half 2017 Financial Survey

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Income	\$259,898	\$305,617
Expense	\$254,268	\$254,118
Net Income	\$5,630	\$51,498

Church Council

Approved minutes of the Church Council meetings can be found on the [Church Council](#) page on the FUMC website under Resources

FUMC's [Guiding Principles](#) can be found on the FUMC website under Resources

FUMC Town Hall Meeting



If you have any questions,
these will now be answered.