

Partnering in Ministry Task Force

Overview

The Councils at St. Mark and Grace have discussed the many possibilities to strengthen our ministries by doing some partnering together. We could partner in a variety of ministry opportunities that otherwise might not be available or practical in one congregational setting. There are also staff positions in both congregations that presently are open, together we could benefit in sharing and supporting a staff member and their ministry.

The Partnering in Ministry Task Force will be diving deeper into the possibility of collaborating. This may result in the task force developing a strategic and coordinated vision about this partnership to then recommend to their respective councils.

Goals

- To develop a strategic, coordinated, and collaborative effort in sharing in ministry
- To encourage participation, interest, and enthusiasm from the congregations in partnering
- To identify the opportunities, issues and needs in each congregation and how we can respond
- To identify what both churches have in common, and what is unique to each

Membership of Task Force

Given the nature of this task force, we recommend that members of the task force possess the following qualities:

- A genuine interest in serving on the task force
- The ability to relay the desires, questions, and concerns of their congregations

- The ability to see the possibilities of what might be, as we work to share God's love and word
- Good communication skills – verbal, written, and social media
- A passion for ministries
- Caring, professional, and organized

The task force should consist of people from diverse backgrounds and interests. Some of the areas of ministry we believe this task force would benefit from include the following:

- Pastor Stephanie and Pastor Travis
- Ken Krumwiede and Rick Flynn (council presidents)
- Finance representative (1 from each church)
- Youth representative (1 from each church; parent or youth leader)
- Social Ministry representative (1 from each church)
- Music & Worship representative (1 from each church)
- Personnel representative (1 from each church)

***In addition to the 14 task force members listed above, there will be a recorder who will attend the meetings to take minutes, but who will not be an actual member of the task force.

Timeframe

First, we will officially introduce the congregation to the idea of partnering in ministry. Then with the help of Pastor Erika Uthe, DEM and Assistant to the Bishop, we will begin with 30 days of prayer. In those 30 days, the first two weeks will be about prayerfully considering who is nominated from the congregation to be on the Task Force. The third week of prayer will be prayer for the councils or executive councils to discern, of those nominated who meets the needs of this task force. The final week of prayer will be to invite the nominated task force members and allow time for them to discern their ability to participate.

Following the 30 days of prayer. Under the guidance of Pastor Erika Uthe, there will be 4-6 week intensive. At the end of those 4 or 6 weeks, the task force will

have a recommendation. If they discern they need more time for certain tasks or feedback, the task force members will be given the option to continue or step back.

In Short:

30 Day of Prayer

Week 1 & 2 - Prayer as people nominate members for the Task Force

Week 3 - Councils discern who of the nominees best fit the needs of the Task Force.

Week 4 - The Nominees discern their call to the Task force

4-6 Week Intensive Sessions with Pastor Erika Uthe's Guidance

The task force will meet every week in a short period of time and then make a recommendation as to what steps need to be taken.

Suggested motions:

I make the motion that we form the Partnering in Ministry Task Force and they proceed as it has been written in the proposal.