Future Forward Team Meeting

Sunday, February 25

In attendance: Terra Kardos, Clarence Bell, Jaime, Tori, & Taby Hogan, Julie Potoka, Clint & Amanda Graham, Len Kalmar, Amy Dunmire, Janis Hill, Pastor Jim

Objective: Transforming the present mindset from one that is inwardly-focused, change-resistant, and pessimistic about the future to a new mindset that is outwardly-focused, open to new opportunities, and anticipating the future the living Christ has in store.

Why do people care about the future of our church?

1. God has blessed me through this church and I want others to share in these same blessings. I want my children and grandchildren to worship here.
2. This is my family. They’ve always been there for me.

Concerns raised:

1. Music is often mournful, like a funeral
2. New ideas and participation are held back by the fear that “people will be mad at me”
3. Ministries and activities that have disappeared over the years, including a folk music liturgy, youth worship services, and monthly coffee hours

Short-Term Recommendations & Commitments:

1. Provide a seating area behind the rotunda windows for persons to participate in the worship service without being “exiled” in the nursery.
2. Reinstate a SIMPLE coffee hour consisting of hot/cold beverages and light snacks (e.g. donut holes). One should spend no more than $15-20 per Sunday.
3. Hold a youth Sunday where all aspects of service are planned and led by youth.
4. Begin conversations on how we can incorporate new styles of more upbeat and uplifting music into our liturgy *on a regular basis*.
5. Use the Bush Trust funds to sponsor a Christian music concert, open to the public.
6. Invite Pastor Kricher for another conversation in April to discuss how we can enrich the worship experience and make meaningful connections to bring neighbors to Christ.