

GIFT Growing In Faith Together

News about our Visioning Process

Dear Weisenberg Family,

Your Visioning Team is excited to invite you to participate in a spiritual and meaningful journey . . . our Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Visioning Process. This is your opportunity to help set the path and direction for God's Church at Weisenberg.

The purpose of our GIFT Visioning Process is to understand where we are as a congregation and use this knowledge to set some achievable goals for the coming 3 to 4 years and move toward where God is calling us, both in our congregation and in our community.

Please know that each part of this process is a critical step in which everyone's participation and feedback is critically important, nourishing, powering, and influencing our Growing in Faith Together for the years to come. Participating in prayer and visioning with your children can be faith-filled family time.

- We "kickoff" this period of discernment on Sunday, October 5 at 9:00
 - Rev. Mark Tidsworth, our guiding consultant, will lead us in worship and describe the Visioning Process.
 - There will be a question-and-answer session.
 - A catered brunch will be provided.
 - We will begin distribution of the Daily Devotional and Prayer Guide, *Crossing Thresholds*, for our 40 days of prayer and vision.

Sign up for the brunch and for your prayer guide in the social room or by contacting a visioning team member. We need an accurate headcount. To save some money and prevent waste, couples and households can share the prayer guides, if preferred.

➤ 40 days of Prayer and Vision begins on October 13

The *Crossing Thresholds Prayer Guide* has for each day a short devotional and prompts with space to write what comes to your mind - your insights, visions, and hopes for the future of God's Church at Weisenberg.

➤ Listening Groups – Sharing Our Insights

After the 40 Days of Prayer and Vision, Reverend Tidsworth will lead or facilitate Listening Groups at the church. In these small group meetings, about one hour long, Rev. Tidsworth will ask about 5 questions designed to hear and learn your 40 days of insights, hopes, and dreams. Listening Groups will be held on the evening of Friday, Nov. 21st, Saturday the 22nd, and morning and afternoon on Sunday the 23rd. There will be a signup sheet in the community room or contact a member of the Visioning Team.

➤ Congregational Surveys

Sometime soon after the Listening Group weekend, surveys will be distributed. These surveys are straightforward and ask for basic information that will help our consultants and team understand our congregation.

➤ Goals and Implementations

In February, after all the information has been collected and organized, our team and consultant will meet again to help create achievable goals and initial action steps, which will be proposed to the church.

Finally, our church has received many anonymous and generous donations earmarked for our GIFT Visioning. A huge thank-you to the individuals and families who so generously offer these gifts.

Blessings,

Bill Keba, Coordinator, GIFT Visioning Process

Your GIFT Visioning Team: Amy Breininger, Jessica Friday, Cheryl Hausman, Brian Heintzelman, Bill Keba, Ralie Kubat, John Mosovsky, Rev. Brandon Heavner