

## Worship & Education FAQs



### **Q: Who are the members of the Vision Team for Worship & Education (VTWE)?**

**A:** The team is comprised of five staff and seven lay people and met for nine months evaluating details of options for worship including surveying the congregation at large to get input. Team members include:

- » Nancy Baker
- » Clay Barnes
- » Hillary Bustamante
- » Pete Francois
- » Margaret Gordon
- » Betsy Howden
- » Joe Loudanback
- » Jennifer McDonald
- » Glenn McDonald
- » Scott Shelton
- » Pat Smith
- » Kathy Wilson (active elder)

### **Q: What were the primary purposes for addressing Worship & Education?**

**A:** There are three key issues being addressed in this process:

- » The lack of sheer numbers and depth of instrumentalists, vocalists, and leaders to continue to effectively serve four (originally five when this process started) services
- » Our desire to provide substantive quality adult education to facilitate personal spiritual growth
- » The goal of drawing people together and building stronger sense of community

### **Q: What was the original proposal given to VTWE for consideration?**

**A:** The original proposal presented to VTWE was for two services with an education hour in between. This proposal was set aside by the team in favor of two 75-minute services with education programming during both services.

### **Q: What was the key input received form the congregation?**

**A:** Input from congregation was received, evaluated, and given serious consideration. Congregational input was balanced between positive and negative reactions as well as questions. Highlights include:

- » 75 minutes is too long for services
- » 9 am is too early to get families to church
- » Change is not needed / wanted
- » We need more adult education

### **Q: What is the next step?**

**A:** A unanimous recommendation from the VTWE was submitted to session on March 8. Session requested that a report be made back to the congregation before a vote by session on April 5. Session will also receive and vote on an implementation plan at that time.

**Q: What was the revised recommendation?**

**A:** The recommendation submitted to session for the April 5 meeting included the following:

- » Effective May 29, 2011, there would be two Sunday morning services of 60 minutes in length, one beginning at 9 am and one beginning at 10:30 am.
- » The 8 am service and Chapel at 9:30 service will be discontinued on that date.
- » Effective August 21, there will be quality educational programming for children and adults during each of the two worship hours.

**Q: What is the rationale for only two services?**

**A:** There are three primary factors for moving to two services:

- » Sheer numbers of vocalists, musicians and worship leaders only exist to support 2 services.
- » Our current reality is that we are a church with 650-700 people attending worship on Sunday. With a sanctuary that seats 600, we only need two services.
- » Consolidating to two services will serve to build a stronger sense of community among those currently worshipping here.

**Q: What will be the worship style of the two services?**

**A:** This will be determined through discussions between current worship team members, pastors and other staff.

- » The goal is to provide excellence through holistic worship and is less about specific worship styles.
- » There is a separate proposal to hire a full-time worship director. That person would be key in determining worship style.

**Q: What will be the programming for children?**

- » During the 9 am hour we will offer our current format of worship, large group teach and small group teach.
- » Programming for the 10:30 am hour has yet to be determined but we are reviewing exciting new material to engage our children in different ways. It will be completely different programming in order to support families fully engaging in both hours.

**Q: What will be the programming for youth?**

- » During the 9 am hour, we will offer our youth Sunday School programming.
- » During the 10:30 am hour we will be developing specific plans to expand opportunities for youth to engage in Sanctuary worship and to engage them in ways they can serve.

**Q: What will be the programming for adults?**

- » Plans are being developed to offer approximately four adult classes during each hour. Each of the eight classes offered will be unique, not being repeated during the other hour. Consideration will be given to repeating a class at a different time at the alternate hour.
- » General plans would be for classes to run for 6–8 weeks with options for other time frames as need arises.
- » Class subject matter will be determined in several different ways:
  - To support Worship, Word, and World through encouraging personal spiritual growth.
  - By addressing key issues of life from a Biblical perspective: parenting, finances, etc.