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Do WE "Really" Want To Reach Unchurched?

It's common to hear churches say their goal is to reach the unchurched. At FBC we say our mission is to "Connect To God, Connect To Family (Church), and Connect to our Community." Implicit in that statement is our goal to reach the unchurched. Almost every church I know says they want to reach unchurched people, but few are doing it.

We've finished Transformational Church. We have looked at <u>WHO</u> we are, <u>WHAT</u> we are, <u>HOW</u> we are and now implementing the hard part of <u>WHERE</u> we need to go now. To do that, our worship services, education programs, study groups, programs and ministries must match our mission of Connecting with people both inside our church (God's Family) and outside our church, the unchurched, the unsaved, the lost.

How do we do that? Here are possible questions that might help us reach the unchurched.

1. How are our worship services? One of the simplest ways to evaluate a worship service is to simply ask teenagers and young adults "if they love our services." As a rule, if our services engage them, we've designed a church service that **"really"** engages unchurched people.

2. Do our members actually know unchurched people? Our church is amazing in that we know "everybody" and "really" want to reach unchurched people but do we know them well enough to invite them to church? I'd suggest that sports, school, dinners and more are great ways to meet people but **IF** it's only with and for our children, family, church or friends, and not for the unchurched, then we're missing a great opportunity and disobeying Jesus' command.

3. Are we prepared to be non-judgmental? Unchurched people do not come 'pre-converted'. They will have lifestyle issues that might take years to change (and let's be honest, don't we?). Jesus didn't say "cleaning up your behavior as a pre-condition for salvation." Jesus' approach was to love people into life change. If we can do that, we're "really" ready to reach unchurched people.

4. Are we good with difficult questions? One of the reasons unchurched people flee churches is they feel shut down when every question they ask has a snappy or quick answer. Embracing the "real" questions of unchurched people is a "real" expression of loving them.

5. Are you honest about your struggles? Unchurched people get suspicious when church leaders and Christians want to appear to have it 'all together'. Let's face it, we don't, and they know it! When you are honest about your struggles, it draws unchurched people closer. I can truthfully say our church isn't perfect, that we will probably let them down and we'll make mistakes. So get over it! A true Christian community is one that can deal with problems openly, honestly, face to face and work through it. Honesty is an amazingly attractive attribute for anyone, especially a Christian or a Church. Many unchurched folks have "really" never seen such a person before.

6. Do we have easy, obvious, and helpful steps for new people? We start "FBC Pathway to LEADership" training this weekend and more will follow. Classes, training, information that are designed to be an easy pathway to move someone from their first visit right through to joining our church and other Christians in small groups or other core ministries of our church.

7. Will we dump assumptions? It's easy to assume the unchurched know at least the basics of the Christian faith. How much do you "really know" about Judaism, Hinduism or Muslims? That's what the unchurched "**really**" know about Christianity. Dump the assumptions and expectations. Make it easy for "them" to understand what you're talking about, and my assumption is that you'll be one of the few that's "**really**" talking about Christ and God's love for us sinners.

8. Are we flexible and adaptable. Our FBC mission is to "CONNECT"! Churches that are adaptable and flexible in their strategy (not in their mission or vision) will have the best chance of "really" reaching unchurched people.

"As My Father has sent me, so I send you."

Bro. Larry



Schedule: <u>Fri., Nov. 7th</u> 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm The Power of Prayer

Sat., Nov. 8thSun.8:30am6:30Continental BreakfastPray9am9amayerThe House of Prayer10:30amDisciplines of PrayerNoon Lunch1pmPraying the Bible Way6:30pmGoing Deeper with God[Events for children for all sessions. Nursery provided.]

<u>Sun., Nov.</u> 9th 6:30pm Praying with Fire Video

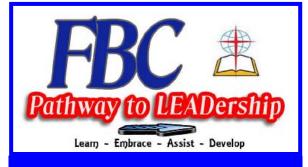


WOM Lottie Moon Auction Tue., Nov. 11th 6pm at the Ferrell's

Annual Thanksgiving Meal and Fellowship

Sunday, November 23rd at 5:30pm





Sat., Nov 1st 9am to Noon The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

Sun., Nov 2nd 2-5pm Everyone Communicates, Few Connect FBC in the Fellowship Hall

Small Groups in November				
Sunday's				
6:30pm	Wild at Heart			
	Respectable Sins			
	The Well			
Monday's & Wednesday's				
5 to 6pm	Yoga			



3rd Monday 6:15-7:30pm at the Regional Education Ctr.

from FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, New Tazewell, Tennessee

FBC to UT Football Game







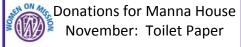




Church Council Meeting Nov. 4th at 6:30pm All TEAM Members please attend!

> Short Business Meeting Nov. 19th at 6:30pm

September 2014 General Fund Month's Receipts.....\$25,528.85 YTD Receipts.....\$291,186.70



UNSUNG SERVANTS

A special thank you for everyone who worked so hard on our 120th Anniversary & Homecoming. Programs are still available in the office.

Thank you to all who made the Sunday School Rally a success and so much fun!

Benevolence Ministry Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Sunday School Rally Oct. 19th, 2014











November 2014

	from First	Baptist Church,	New	Tazewell,	Tennessee	
Larry Sharp, l	Pastor					-526-8038

Todd Spangler, Music Director.423-626-5401Barry Liles, Youth Director.865-585-2554

Jeff Lewis, Chairman of Deacons......423-526-7223

Chris Bell, Pastoral Intern Pam Worley, Deaf Interpreter First Baptist Church, PO Box 248 New Tazewell, TN 37824

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NOVEMBER 2014

	NOVEMBER			
Waakhy Sahadula	1 st (Sat) 9a	m to noon	Pathway to LEADership	
Weekly Schedule Sunday	2 nd (Sun)	2-5pm	Pathway to LEADership	
9:45am Sunday School for All Ages		5pm	Deacon's Meeting	
11:00am Worship Service; Children's Church; Nursery & Toddler		6:30pm	Kidz Program (4 -11 year olds)	
			Small Groups	
·	3 rd /5 th (Mon/We	d) 5-6pm	Yoga	
1	4 th (Tue)	6:30pm	Church Council Meeting	
6:30pm Worship; Kidz; MS &High School Youth;	7 th to 9 th (Fri-Sun)		Praying with Fire Conference	
College Bible Study/Fellowship; Nursery	10 th /12 th (Mon/W	ed) 5-6pm	Yoga	
Wednesday	6pm		WOM-Lottie Moon Auction	
6:30pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study; MS & HS Youth; College Bible Study; Nursery	17 th /19 th (Mon/W	ed)5-6pm	Yoga	
		6:30pm	Short Business Meeting	
	23 rd (Sun)	5:30pm	Thanksgiving Meal & Fellowship	
Nursery: Sunday morning for bed babies.	24 th (Mon)	-	Yoga Small Group	
Sunday evenings up to 3 years old.		6:30pm	Building & Grounds Meeting	
Toddler Room: Sunday morning for toddlers	26 th (Wed)	•	No Evening Service	
up to 3 years old.	27 th /28 th (Thur/Fri)		Church Office Closed	
	30 th (Sun)		Hanging of the Greens	
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