

## **Kirk Night Evaluation November 18, 2009**

**Participants:** All Session committees and the Board of Deacons were represented (15 people total). In addition, there were about 15 regular Kirk Night attendees who participated.

### **Introductory Kirk Night Data**

#### *Financials:*

January to November 2009 – expenditures exceeded revenue by \$5000

Fall 2009 (pilot period for Kirk Café) - expenditures exceeded revenue by \$2000

Conclusion: Experimental Kirk Cafe meal system did not save a significant amount of money.

#### *Attendance:*

Fall 2009 Average Attendance = 43

### **Evaluation Methodology**

Small group response to questions followed by a “gallery walk” and voting.

The most popular answers are highlighted in yellow.

#### **Questions 1: List current purpose or purposes of Kirk Night**

- Fellowship (connectivity- blend the church as a whole; integrate new members of the Church) 16
- Education and Program 6
- Committee Meeting 3
- Meal 3
- Help members participate with Church beyond Sunday 2
- Choir practice
- Fun
- Concentrate mid week activities (committee, choir, youth choir/programs)
- Offers different options for discipleship & outreach/way for Church members to make connections
- Deeper relationship building

#### **Question 2: List ways to provide a healthy cost effective meal.**

- Yes to Church Subsidy 16
- Consistent menu rotation 4
- Volunteer Cook/Staff 2
  - Cooking teams
- Pot Luck – bring healthy options
- Catered – promote local business
- Modified pot luck – meat provided, bring dish to share
- Whole grain/satisfying portions
- \$7, \$4
- Value connected to event
- Portion control and sign-up essential
- Find wealthy donors
- Kirk night Endowment

#### **Question 3: What are members’ needs?**

- Commitment to the life of the congregation 7 – highlighted in yellow because this fits with “fellowship” under Question 1 above

- Develop stronger personal relationships 5 – highlighted in yellow because this fits with “fellowship” under Question 1 above
- Connect old and new members into a community 5 – highlighted in yellow because this fits with “fellowship” under Question 1 above
- Bible study beyond Sunday 5
- Connection through the week, not just Sunday 2
- Small groups 1
- Covenant groups 1
- Responsibility for life of the Church
- Inclusiveness
- Education on major life issues
- More fun, Fellowship
- A feeling of belonging

**Question 4: What are the current needs of our community?**

- Practical life/leadership/job skills development programs 6
- Infrastructure – water/sewage/water supply highways/roads 3
- Leadership 2
- Assistance for temporary economic difficulties 2
- Programs of interest (i.e. Bible study, recreational, educational) 1
- Expand programs/activities for local youth (i.e. boys and girls club)
- Jobs
- Reliable accessible public transportation
- Food
- Improvement in race relationships/perceptions

**Final Question: Do you recommend the continuation of some type of midweek ministry?**

Yes 21 No 4

**Initial Findings:**

- Those who attended the evaluation expressed a strong interest in continuing some kind of midweek ministry.
- The most significant points of consensus about this midweek ministry were that:
  - (1) fellowship should be a central focus, allowing for the strengthening of the church community as a whole, the development of stronger personal relationships, the integration of new members, and the connection of older and newer members;
  - (2) the church should subsidize a healthy meal.
- Secondary points of consensus (and these were a distant second from the above) were that this midweek ministry could provide:
  - (1) educational opportunities, including Bible study and practical life/leadership/job skills training;
  - (2) an outlet for members to demonstrate their commitment to the life of the congregation.
- It is worth noting that under Question 1, “fellowship” received 16 votes, whereas “education/program” only received only 6 votes.

**Unresolved Questions:**

- In the absence of a Kirk Night Committee, who will provide leadership for a midweek ministry?
- What will the roles of staff members versus lay leaders be in providing leadership?
- What will the format of a midweek ministry be?
- Is Kirk Night the best way to meet the goals of fellowship as outlined under “initial findings”? Why or why not?