

Map Making Task Force Challenge

5/24/18

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1. Thoughts to cultivate environments that create a Core Identity among us.

(From the Church Council and Ministry Teams meeting on 2/27/18)

- 1) Understand the changing environment of our community that effects our church as well.
- 2) Recognize clear, identifiable boundaries no longer exist between groups, including the local church and local cultures.
- 3) Cultivate an environment in our community that enables the re-forming of Christian life around the core identity of the Christian narrative.
- 4) Cultivate people in our congregation who ask what the Holy Spirit is up to in our neighborhoods.
- 5) Provide an environment in our congregation where people feel safe enough and encouraged to learn and listen to God and one another as a basic habit of their lives.
- 6) Encourage God's people at GSLC to be part of the process of developing new maps for our vision.

2. Theme for 2018-2019:

“Cultivate Environments that Create a Core Identity!” (Romans 12:2)

“Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”

3. The Eight Community Realities

- 1) Our congregation is not representative of our unchurched community.
- 2) People are not joiners.
- 3) People desire social interaction and connection.
- 4) People are overextended and church competes for valuable resources.
- 5) People have increased anxieties for safety.
- 6) Religious practices are not a priority, but service to others and giving are important.
- 7) People prefer to feel guilt-free versus being held accountable to absolutes.
- 8) Bible story concepts and terminology are not familiar to many.

4. Core Values of GSLC

Core values already exist; they do not change over time. Core values help us make decisions; they are not motivational. They are to be discovered/uncovered. "Core values are the essential and enduring tenets of an organization. They are a small set of timeless and intrinsic guiding principles that require no external validation."

- 1) Word & Sacrament (Lutheran Confessions)
 - 2) Great Commission
 - 3) Office of the Public Ministry
 - 4) Peace
- Our goal is to establish a Core Identity in our community that help us intersect our Core Values (Who we are and how we behave) with our community.