



MISSION, SERVICE JUSTICE CENTURY 3 TEAM

2ND MEETING, 7-8:15, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021



RE-INTRODUCTION TO OUR GOAL

- We will take the next 3-4 months to come up with 4-5 SMART goals in the area of Mission, Service, and Justice.
- Manchester UMC is already a leader in this area and is helping to create a state-wide culture shift about the relationship between service and justice.
- This group was chosen because of our diversity in age and experience. All voices on this team are necessary.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Name
- History at/relationship to Manchester
- Describe an **AMAZING** moment/Aha! moment you've experienced in the area of Mission, Service, and Justice.
- If you could have any superpower, what would you pick?

TIME TO COMPLAIN!

- Communication/follow up with visitors and new members
- Communication in-between meetings/events, promotion of events
- Siloed ministries—have to be involved to know what is going on.
- Generational Divides
- "corporate governance"—things feel amorphous. Lead person and teams, accountability for groups and communication between. ACCOUNTABILITY.
- More lay leadership
- We're not matching resources with needs. How do we communicate needs to resource. How do we start to use our professional/personal skills.
- Need for Skilled service.
- Need to link mission and justice together. We do one or the other.
- Learn more about systems from those we serve. Start to address. Social systems (employment, education, finance, etc).
- Who is doing great work on this subject? How can we partner and tap into that?
- Need to partner with agencies who have relationship with community.
- Need more awareness—especially on body-stuff (weight, ability, assault/sex and sexuality)
- Awareness and understanding of what it means to be mission and justice oriented together. We haven't done a great job with the theological background and education.
- Recycle people too much—folks who are already engaged are asked to do more
- Website is not easy to understand and find things and keep track of what is going on

TIME TO DREAM

- Connect with community organizations and non-profits to know what the community needs. Utilize resources
- Engaging more members of the congregation in mission work and justice stuff. Who do we already have that we can utilize? Programs based on partnering.
- Able to access efficacy of programs. Flexible enough to shift program based on changing need. Way to track service--justice spectrum.
- Effective communication SYSTEM.
- To be a resource—people would know to come to us and feel safe with us.
- We can become a resource/model for other Methodist Churches in the state and across the connection.
- Connect hand, head, and heart work.
- Outreach—find happy medium not repetition and not giving so many details its lost. (effective communication)
- More effective website
- What do we have in our church that we can use? Talent/giftedness audit. Match skills and interest to need (haven't shown the success of getting it going)— need to pilot on smaller scale. We need to do good stuff if we have that information already.
- Show success of mission work without it sounding like a pat on the back. How do we communicate success, celebrate visibly, GET GOOD DATA!

CLOSING PRAYER

**God, give us grace to accept with serenity
the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things
which should be changed,
and the Wisdom to distinguish
the one from the other.
Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,
Taking, as Jesus did,
This sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it,
Trusting that You will make all things right,
If I surrender to Your will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with You forever in the next.**