

PURPOSE AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR UNITED IN FAITH

God's Purpose for United in Faith:

We are to be God's Hands, Feet and Voice in the world.

Guiding Principles for United in Faith:

Jesus is Lord and Savior.

Reflect God's love.

Pray and listen for God's guidance.

Continue to strengthen faith.

Include All in God's work.

Meet people where they are.

Procedure for Planning Ministry Reflecting Our Guiding Principles

These steps will help you plan ministry and reflect our guiding principles in your ministry projects. The listed attachments are to be used in conjunction with this procedure. All participants should have copies of these documents.

STEP 1: Begin Planning Your Project

As you begin to consider a new project, activity, or event, use the Coaching Questions for Guiding Principles, as they will assist you determining what your project is all about. As the project team discusses the coaching questions in relationship to the project, they will develop a sense of awareness of how the project will evolve and grow. The Coaching Questions will help you tailor your project, activity, or event to best reflect United in Faith's guiding principles and values.

Use the Ministry Planning Worksheet to record the responses to the coaching questions. These questions will help you determine how your program/event can reflect the guiding principles. Use your imagination in responding. Brainstorm. Do not feel constrained or limited as you strive to seek ways your program/event reflects our guiding principles. Keep responses simple. Each response should be an action item and start with a verb. Enter all responses in the appropriate text box for each guiding principle.

STEP 2: Gradually solidify your project planning

As the project development progresses toward its final state, continue to reference the coaching questions and the Ministry Planning Worksheet and make the appropriate additions, changes and enhancements to the worksheet. This is an iterative process. You may wish to review the Coaching Questions again to be sure that the project, activity, or event still reflects the guiding principles. If necessary, revisit the guiding principles, without responses, using prayer and discernment. You determine when the process is complete.

STEP 3: Finalize your project plans

When you are satisfied that the plans for your project are complete, you can copy the pertinent items from the worksheet to the Ministry Planning Report. You can share the Ministry Planning Report with your Ministry Coordinator or Pastor - **if you so desire**. Use of the Ministry Planning Report is meant to assist you in planning your project and in reflecting our guiding principles in all that the ministry does. The successful completion of the Ministry Planning Report is less important than the group discernment and conversation during the planning process for each new program, event, or activity. You might save a copy of the Ministry Planning Report for the next time you plan a similar event.

Have fun implementing your event.

Attachments:

- PGP0 Purpose & Guiding Principles
- PGP2 Coaching Questions for Our Guiding Principles
- PGP3 Ministry Planning Worksheet EXAMPLE
- PGP4 Ministry Planning Worksheet
- PGP5 Ministry Planning Report EXAMPLE
- PGP6 Ministry Planning Report (blank form)

COACHING QUESTIONS FOR UNITED IN FAITH'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Use these coaching questions when you are brainstorming for an idea, planning for an event, working on a project or making a decision.

Jesus is Lord and Savior.

How do we honor Jesus as Lord and Savior?

How do we show (share) Jesus as Lord and Savior?

How will this work express our commitment to Jesus as Lord and Savior?

If someone were watching us do this, how would they tell that Jesus is our Lord and Savior from HOW we do it?

Reflect God's love.

How do we reflect God's love as we carry this out?

Why is it important to reflect God's love?

Pray and listen for God's guidance.

Have we prayed for God's guidance?

How did God respond?

What was God's response?

Continue to strengthen faith.

How do we strengthen faith?

What about this work will strengthen people's faith? How will you recognize that this has happened?

Include All in God's work.

Who is included in our "ALL?"

Who is not included in our "ALL?"

Should our "ALL" be expanded?

How do we involve "ALL?"

Who else could we invite to be involved in this?

Who has gifts or talents that could help us?

Who is doing good work that we could help?

Meet people where they are.

Do we know the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of "ALL?"

If not, how do we find out?

How do we meet their needs?

How will this work introduce us to new people?

What connections will we look for to others as we do this?

Ministry Planning Worksheet

Program/Event:		Sponsor:		Program/Event Date:	
Blessing of the Animals		Pastor Greg		10/23/2010	
Jesus is Lord and Savior	Reflect God's love	Pray and listen for God's guidance	Continue to strengthen faith	Include all in God's work	Meet people where they are
Bless animals as part of His creation.	Express our love of animals - part of His creation.	Pray for guidance to respect God's animals	Reflect on our part of creation as we care for His animals	Bless all animals, not just pets, including those not present	Recognize the importance of pets to people/families
Use liturgy to proclaim Christ.	Invite those who come to join us in Sunday Worship.	Pray for all who do not have pets but are caregivers	Offer thanksgiving for our pets and the world's animals	Invite people with and without pets (caregivers, those who lost pets)	Hold the service outside for those who may be intimidated by the church building
	Invite all to share animal treats with other animals.	Pray for all who have pets.	Reflect on how pets can mirror God's unconditional love.	Invite pets to be brought to the blessing	Hold the blessing on Saturday AND on Sunday afternoon to give more a chance to attend.
	Express our gratitude & concern for caregivers	Pray for all who have lost pets.		Invite neighbors as well as the UiF community	Include in 1 Sunday service w/ the other service a pet free service.
		Pray for sick pets.		Invite a local vet	
		Pray for abused animals.		Include Service animals	
		Pray for animals adversely effected by our actions including environmental		Include the police canine unit.	

Ministry Planning Worksheet

Program/Event:		Sponsor:		Program/Event Date:	
Jesus is Lord and Savior	Reflect God's love	Pray and listen for God's guidance	Continue to strengthen faith	Include all in God's work	Meet people where they are

Ministry Planning Report

Program/Event:

Sponsor:

Program/Event Date:

Jesus is Lord and Savior

Bless animals as part of His creation.
Use liturgy to proclaim Christ

Reflect God's love

Express our love of animals - part of His creation.
Invite those who come to join us in Sunday Worship.
Invite all to share animal treats with other animals.
Express our gratitude & concern for caregivers

Pray and listen for God's guidance

Pray for guidance to respect God's animals.
Pray for all those who do not have pets but are caregivers.
Pray for all who have pets.
Pray for all who have lost pets.
Pray for sick pets.
Pray for abused animals.
Pray for animals adversely effected by our actions including environmental.

Continue to strengthen faith

Reflect on our part of creation as we care for His animals.
Offer thanksgiving for our pets and the world's animals.
Reflect on how pets can mirror God's unconditional love

Include all in God's work

Bless all animals, not just pets, including those not present
Invite people with and without pets (caregivers, those who lost pets)
Invite pets to be brought to the blessing
Invite neighbors as well as the UiF community
Invite a local vet
Include service animals

Meet people where they are

Recognize the importance of pets to people/families
Hold the service outside for those who may be intimidated by the church building
Hold the blessing on Saturday AND on Sunday afternoon to give more a chance to attend.

Ministry Planning Report

Program/Event:

Sponsor:

Program/Event Date:

Jesus is Lord and Savior

Reflect God's love

Pray and listen for God's guidance

Continue to strengthen faith

Include all in God's work

Meet people where they are