

CHURCH RENEWAL LAB VISION SUMMARY

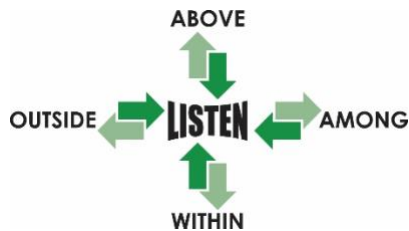
GOAL: The Church Renewal Lab is a renewal jump start for the purpose of developing intentional missional congregations that make more and better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ.

ESSENTIALS: Abiding, Vision, Leadership, Health

PLAN: Listen...Imagine...Do (i.e. Discover...Name...Experiment)



First... "Four Directional Listening"



- Above= What is God saying in his Word about his mission and our calling?
- Among= What is the congregation saying about their gifts and passions?
- Outside= What is our community & culture saying about needs & opportunities?
- Within= What is the Holy Spirit calling us uniquely to do?

Second... "Building a Vision Pyramid"



- Mission= God's mission of redeeming and restoring everyone and everything
- Vision= God's mission lived out in our neck of the woods
- Values = Attitudes & priorities supporting the congregational vision
- Objectives= Long term (5-10 year) "Big Hairy Audacious Goals" (B.H.A.G.s)
- Action Plans= Annual goals (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic, Timebound)
- Practices = Expectations of members in order to participate in the mission/vision

Third... Implement the agreed upon goals leading towards a God preferred future

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCESS: Learning Labs, peer learning, assigned readings, coaching (see following pages)

TEAM LEADERSHIP: Pastor, Elder, Deacon, Worship, Youth, Discipleship, Hospitality, Prayer, Children, Outreach

TOOL BOX: Visioning tool, Gospel-telling tool, Disciple-making tool, Church vitality tool, Implementation tool



YEAR 1: “VISIONING”

Quarter 1: “LISTEN” [Goal: Launching the listening process for renewal]

| Teach | Focus & Reading | Councils/Congregations | Accomplish | Outcomes |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewal journey introduced • Essentials of Renewal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Abiding, Vision, Leadership, Health • Innovation & leading change • Holy Spirit’s work in renewal • The Renewal Toolbox | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus: VISIONING TOOL • Read: CANOEING THE MOUNTAINS (everyone) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils quarter 1 devotions • Scripture reading: Acts. • “Time to Remember” event and other listening work • Outreach experiment • Take Congregational Assessment Tool | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LISTENING PLAN • CRL team begins to meet • Order MissionInsite • Create communication for congregation and council • Preach “Four Essentials” • Invest in a Quick Win | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A listening process begins • Renewal team begins life together • A new sense of ministry purposefulness • Knowing neighbors • Clear process for renewal is established |

Quarter 2: “TELL” [Goal: Becoming Gospel-telling and outreach-oriented in renewal]

| Teach | Focus & Reading | Councils/Congregations | Accomplish | Outcomes |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review progress & reading • The Power of the Gospel • Gospel telling outline • Gospel preaching • Discipleship pathway • 10 outreach investments to becoming neighbor-focused | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus: OUTREACH TOOL • Read: Practicing the Way: John Mark Comer (pastors) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council quarter 2 devotions • Begin working on Pyramid • Develop outreach strategy • Invest in quick win • Congregation reads John 1-12 • Preach ABCs • Set up Reveal Survey (optional) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OUTREACH PLAN • A quick win • Monthly team meetings • Preach “ABC’s of Hospitality” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospel telling central in life of congregation • Outreach strategy • Congregation equipped to share faith and live Gospel vocationally • Preaching refocused |

Quarter 3: “FORM” [Goal: Developing disciple-making practices for renewal]

| Teach | Focus & Reading | Councils/Congregations | Accomplish | Outcomes |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review progress & reading • Discipleship a biblical passion • Discipleship essentials • “Life-on-Life” disciple making • Reviewing REVEAL • Writing a discipleship plan • Preparing for a vision retreat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus DISCIPLESHIP TOOL • Read: The Local Church, Agent of Transformation (selected chapters) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council quarter 3 devotions • Read Gospel of John 13-21 • Bridge to neighbor’s event • Retreat 3 narratives & Pyramid • Develop a discipleship Strategy • Preach: Living the Jesus Life (discipleship series) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DISCIPLESHIP PLAN • Conduct a “Bridge to the Neighbors” event • Write 3 narratives • Preach a “Discipleship” series (passion/practices) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a clear disciple-making strategy • Naming what is so (i.e. the three narratives) • Develop the one-page vision summary from work done on retreat |

YEAR 2: "IMPLEMENTING"

Quarter 4: "BLESS" [Goal: Creating strategies to become justice-oriented congregations]

| Teach | Focus & Reading | Councils/Congregations | Accomplish | Outcomes |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review progress & reading Becoming communities of justice and mercy Cultural hospitality Nurturing generosity Vocational ministry BHAGs, Goals, Practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus: CHURCH VITALITY TOOL Read: KINGDOM COME (everyone) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council quarter 4 devotions Preach Micah 6.8 "What the Lord Requires" Develop a bless strategy Make vision presentation to the council/board/consistory Read Ephesians/Colossians | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finish work on vision pyramid Develop a bless strategy Preach "What the Lord Requires of Us" Develop new members' class Begin implementing goals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church begins to implement vision plan Connections with near neighbors increase Mercy and justice become central Fresh new members class is held (invite council) |

Quarter 5: "MOBILIZE" [Goal: Developing implementation processes for renewal]

| Teach | Focus & Reading | Councils/Congregations | Accomplish | Outcomes |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review progress & reading Keys to mobilization Next steps in vision journey Breaking through culture, structural, budget and innovation barriers Mobilizing people (Eph. 4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus: IMPLEMENTATION TOOL Read: TEMPERED RESILIENCE (pastors) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council quarter 5 devotions Make vision presentation to the congregation Read Nehemiah Development of SMART goals Preach: Equipping the Saints Every member a minister plan to involve people in the living the vision Restructure for vision/budget | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EVERY MEMBER PLAN Name objectives and annual SMART goals For vision, develop budget and structures document Preach "Equipping Saints" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congregation understands, owns, enlists in the vision New budgets and structures supporting the vision are put in place |

Quarter 6: "CONTINUE" [Goal: Creating practices for perpetual renewal and celebrating progress made on the renewal journey]

| Teach | Focus & Reading | Councils/Congregations | Accomplish | Outcomes |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review progress & reading Nurturing resilience in leading change Creating a culture of change Developing personal habits of continual renewal Celebrating stories of God's renewing work among us. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus: REVIEWING ALL TOOLS Read: THE AGILE CHURCH (pastors) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council quarter 6 devotions Read Romans Complete unfinished work on Pyramid & implement practices Implement outreach and discipleship strategies Create sustaining structures for renewal Map out next renewal investment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEXT STEPS PLAN Conduct an audit of renewal changes to date Create an organizational design to support renewal Preach "A Long Journey in the Same Direction" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name important "wins" in renewal process Congregation is structured for mission Set date to develop year 2 annual goals (SMART) Fully implement vision |

RENEWAL PREPARATION

Onboarding Process:

- New Church Renewal Lab cohorts will be launched, the Lord Willing, every 3-6 months
- Churches expressing interest will be contacted by a Church Renewal Lab team member
- Details concerning the Church Renewal Lab will be shared by the CRL team members including
 1. The goal of the Lab
The Church Renewal Lab is a two-year renewal journey for the purpose of developing intentional missional congregations that make more and better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ
 2. The purpose of the Lab
The Renewal Lab has been designed to come along side any congregation seeking to revitalize ministry by regaining a focus on their missional calling. Congregations participating in the Renewal Lab will begin a journey toward:
 - ✓ Identifying a unique mission and vision
 - ✓ Developing tools for making more and better disciples
 - ✓ Becoming Gospel-centered in everything they do
 - ✓ Changing the atmosphere through congregational health
 - ✓ Implementing the priorities of the Acts 2:42-47 N.T. church
 3. The Renewal Lab's Journey
 - ✓ Cohorts of 5-10 churches journeying together virtually
 - ✓ 6 quarterly renewal gatherings (*The Learning Labs*)
 - ✓ A three-step process: Listen. Imagine. Do.
 - ✓ Team formation to help guide the renewal process
 - ✓ Congregational Involvement
 - ✓ Multiple coaches for various aspects of ministry
 - ✓ Unpacking the essentials and tools of renewal
 4. The expectation of the Lab
 - ✓ A one-plus-one commitment (first year commitment with option for second year)
 - ✓ A gift to the Lab for each gathering to help cover a portion of the expenses
 - ✓ The formation of a team that stays committed to the process during its duration
 - ✓ The pastor is granted permission to invest in the renewal journey
 - ✓ The signing of a covenant agreeing to the above stated expectations
- When possible, an in-person visit to the church will be made when a covenant has been submitted

Investments Prior to First Learning Lab:

- ✓ The CRL congregational team is formed
- ✓ Thriving essentials is viewed
- ✓ A congregational prayer for renewal event is held
- ✓ The congregation reads ACTS Scripture reading guide
- ✓ The council CRL introduction video is viewed and discussed
- ✓ Listening exercises begin to the extent that time permits (i.e. "Time to Remember", SWOT, Community Visits, etc.)
- ✓ Pastor takes the Birkman Assessment and receives coaching around the results



LAB 1: “LISTEN”

- Description:** Beginning the Renewal Journey
- RL Vision:** To develop intentional missional congregations that make more & better disciples
- Desired Outcomes:** Pastors and renewal teams will embrace the Renewal Lab's purpose of creating intentional missional churches that make more and better disciples. They will understand the 3-step process of “listen...imagine...do” and be equipped to engage in 4-directional listening.

Thursday: RENEWAL ESSENTIALS (9:00-3:30 p.m.)

- Session #1: New Wine Skins: How to Live into a New Ministry Day
- Introductions
 - Reflecting on Matthew 9 “New Wineskins” & CANOEING THE MOUNTAINS
- Session #2: The Renewal Journey Introduced
- Beginning with ‘why’
 - The four essentials and three-step process
 - Gospel-centricity and the Disciple-making passion (distinguishing faith formation vs. disciple-making)
- Session #3: Innovation and Leading Change
- The Innovation Challenge: Getting it Right (Vijay Govindarajan video)
 - Leading Change (Kotter's 8 steps and the challenges of change)

Friday: RENEWAL PRACTICES (9:00-3:30 p.m.)

- Session #4: Joining the Renewing Work of the Holy SPIRIT (Zachariah 4:1-10)
- Reflecting on Zachariah 4:1-10
 - Practices of Spirit-directed renewal
- Sessions #5: Renewal Toolbox
- Overview of the Renewal Lab tool box
 - Discussion of each congregations' strengths and weaknesses related to the tools
- Session #6: The Visioning Tool in-depth and Four-directional listening
- The Vision Pyramid and a one-page vision document
 - Beginning by listening from above, among, outside, within (all with details and assignments)

Saturday: TEAM RETREAT

- 9:00 – 10:00 Welcome, devotions, and introduction to the renewal journey
- 10:15-11:30 Departmental Coaching
- 11:45-12:30 Next steps and assignments

Assignments: Hold monthly team meetings, congregation reads Ephesians/Colossians, preach the “Four Essentials” series, Order MissionInsite (in US), interview community leaders, conduct a congregational discovery event, invest in a quick win, find relatable missional church and connect, set up the REVEAL SURVEY, team reads CANOEING THE MOUNTAINS

LAB 2: “Tell”



- Description:** Gospel-telling...the Heart of the Renewal Journey
- CRL Vision:** To develop intentional missional congregations that make more & better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ
- Desired Outcomes:** Pastors and renewal lab teams will embrace the centrality of Gospel-telling in a renewal movement. Additionally, participants will recognize a multi-faceted approach to connecting with neighbors.

Thursday: GOSPEL FOCUSED MINISTRY AND MISSION (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

Session #1: Gospel-centered Ministry

- Acts 8:26-40 discussed during opening devotions (the ABC's of Hospitality introduced)
- Gospel-centered passions and practices (how Gospel is integrated into everyday ministry)

Session #2: Renewal Reboot and Progress on Assignments

- The renewal journey revisited
- The listening process and next step investments (including writing three narratives)

Session #3: Gospel Preaching

- Practices & practicing

Friday: OUTREACH INVESTMENTS (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Session #4: The Outreach Tool

- Acts 10:9-23 discussed during opening devotions
- Ten critical outreach investments & fresh imagining
- The possibilities of becoming a church unleashed

Session #5: Reaching, serving, discipling next generation believers

- The challenge of next gen ministry
- Investments for next gen ministry

Session #6: Neighbor-focused Strategies

- The art of neighboring and teaching good neighbor practices
- Working session: Creating an outreach strategy

Saturday: TEAM RETREAT

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|--------------|---|
| 9:00 – 10:00 | Welcome, Gospel-centered Ministry & Outreach Investments |
| 10:15-11:30 | Departmental Coaching |
| 11:45-12:30 | Where we've been, where we are going, what we need to do next |

Assignments: Hold monthly team meetings, complete 4-directional listening, write 3 narratives, develop an outreach strategy, invest in a quick win, congregation reads John 1-12, preach "ABC's of Hospitality", make team connection with relatable missional church, set up the REVEAL SURVEY, pastors read GROWING THE CHURCH IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



LAB 3: "Form"

- Description:** "Prioritizing Faith Formation in the Renewal Journey" (focus on discipleship)
- RL Vision:** Developing intentional congregations that make more & better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ
- Desired Outcomes:** Congregational leaders will reflect on the current state of discipleship in their congregations and develop plans for increasing Jesus following in their faith communities

Thursday: OUR VISION JOURNEY (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

- Session 1: Renewal Remix and Updates
- Discuss Matthew 16:13-28 during opening devotions
 - Conversations, updates and discussions about mission, vision, values progress
- Session 2: An in-depth examination of the full vision pyramid with next-step assignments
- Discussion related to the value of values
 - Organizing and conducting a vision retreat
- Session 3: Ministry Leadership for Such a Time as This
- Ministry challenges and opportunities
 - Nurturing holy imagination during this liminal time

Friday: MAKING BETTER DISCIPLES

- Session 4: Disciple Making: A Biblical Passion & Priority
- Discuss Luke 18:1-8 and a reflection on the state of disciple-making in North America
 - Discipleship essentials (goals, catalysts, practices in disciple Making)
- Session 5: Four Stages of Faith Formation
- How people get moving
 - Five best disciple-making practices
- Session 6: Next steps for today's disciple-making
- On-line disciple making & Life-on-life disciple making
 - Gen Z disciple making

Saturday: TEAM RETREAT (9:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.)

- 9:00 – 10:00 Opening reflections and next steps in the vision journey
- 10:15-11:30 Departmental Coaching
- 11:45-12:30 The passions and practices of disciple-making in a rapidly changing world

Assignments: Hold monthly team meetings, complete vision pyramid work, share one-page vision with leadership and congregation, develop a discipleship strategy, invest in a quick win, congregation reads John 1-12, preach "Radical Jesus Following" sermon series, conduct a "Bridge to Neighbors" event, pastors read MOVE



LAB 4: "Bless"

Description: Living Into a biblical passion for justice and mercy in the renewal journey
RL Vision: To develop intentional missional congregations that make more & better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ
Desired Outcomes: Pastors and teams will discover fresh ways to be communities of blessing through investing in mercy and justice.

Thursday: BECOMING COMMUNITIES OF BLESSING (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

- Session 1: What the Lord Requires
- Matthew 25:31-46 discussed during opening devotions
 - Reflections on becoming churches of justice and mercy (the “why”)
- Session 2: The Choices and Practices of a Micah Community (the “how”)
- The attitudes and practices of justice and mercy
 - Reflections on KINGDOM COME
- Session 3: The Church Vitality Tool
- Vitality through a church unleashed model of ministry (including 3 tiers & 3 “N.M.s”)
 - The practice of nurturing generosity

Friday: FINAL INVESTMENTS TOWARDS BECOMING MISSIONAL COMMUNITIES (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

- Session 1: Review of Renewal Progress
- Luke 4:14-21 discussed during opening devotions
 - Discussion on assignments completed and progress made towards stated goals
- Session 2: Vision Pyramid Discussions
- Discuss vision pyramids, especially the one-page vision summary
 - Pastors share the work they've accomplished related to objectives, goals and practices
- Session 3: Nurturing a vision for becoming a multi-cultural ministry
- Practices related to cultural sensitivity
 - First steps to cultural hospitality

Saturday: TEAM RETREAT (9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

- 9:00 – 10:00 Opening reflections and the path towards becoming communities of blessing
10:15-11:30 Departmental Coaching
11:45-12:30 Reviewing our vision statement and developing practices that support our “why”

Assignments: Develop a “Bless” strategy including cultural hospitality, congregation reads Scripture guide on “Bless”, develop a new member’s class based on the vision, preach “What the Lord Requires,” begin implementing goals, everyone reads KINGDOM COME



LAB 5: “Mobilize”

- Description:** "Mobilizing the Renewal Vision"
- RL Vision:** To develop intentional missional congregations that make more & better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ
- Desired Outcomes:** Various systems and structures that facilitate vision accomplishment will be explored and the role of SMART goals will be discussed for vision mobilization.

Thursday: OPERATION MOBILIZATION

- Session 1: The Power of "Do"
- Exodus 14:1-15 discussed during opening devotions (Developing a Bias for Action)
 - Renewal Remix Including the Tool Box with particular emphasis on the Implementation Tool
- Session 2: Mobilizing the Congregation
- View and discuss "It's Your Ship" video and discuss every member a minister (Eph. 4)
 - Developing a "dashboard" for measuring progress towards agreed upon goals.
- Session 3: The Value of S.M.A.R.T. Goals
- Description and practice of annual goal setting
 - Revisiting of following the Holy Spirit in a renewal journey

Friday: BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS

- Session 1: Developing Systems and Structures that Empower Renewal
- I Corinthians 1:22-2:5 discussed during opening devotions
- Session 2: Breaking through cultural and structural barriers
- Session 3: Breaking through budget and innovation barriers

Saturday: TEAM RETREAT (9:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.)

- 9:00 – 10:00 Opening devotions and a bias towards action and various practices of putting vision into action
- 10:15-11:30 Departmental Coaching
- 11:45-12:30 Reviewing our vision statement and discussing systems that support vision implementation

Assignments: Continue to meet monthly, invest in 1-3 quick wins, review S.M.A.R.T. goals, envision systems and structures the support the vision and present to the council, develop supporting budgets and structures, congregation reads Nehemiah, preach "Equipping the Saints," create a dashboard, pastors read TEMPERED RESILIENCE



LAB 6: "Continue"

- Description:** "Developing systems, structures and various activities leading to a continuous process of renewal"

RL Vision: To develop intentional congregations that make more & better disciples who transform lives and communities for Christ

Desired Outcomes: Congregational leaders will identify the best practices and most important investments for keeping a congregational renewal movement alive and well into the future and celebrate progress towards that goal.

Thursday: THE FLOURISHING CHURCH

- Session 1: Do Not Grow Weary...Staying the Course
- Reflecting on Jeremiah 29:1-14
 - Discussion of book TEMPERED RESILIENCE
- Session 2: Reviewing the Visioning Tool (including stories and futures)
- Return to Acts 2:42-47 picture of a Spirit-birthed church
 - Discussion of the progress made toward living into a new (or renewed) vision
- Session 3: Reviewing the Gospel-telling and Disciple-making Tool (including stories and futures)
- The ten outreach emphases are discussed and outreach strategies are shared
 - The four levels of discipleship are reviewed and discipleship strategies are shared

Friday: CREATING A B.A.U. OF CHANGE

- Session 1: Reviewing the Church Vitality and Implementation Tools (including stories and futures)
- The “Bless” plans are reviewed and discussion of congregations work towards cultural hospitality
 - Ministry dashboards are shared and progress towards measurable change is highlighted
- Session 2: Creating a BAU (Business as Usual) of Change and Personal Habits of Continual Renewal
- Session 3: CRL Redesign Conversations and Final evaluations
- Discussion of the high and low points of the renewal journey are shared
 - Suggestions for improvement of design and practices of the CRL are sought

Saturday: TEAM RETREAT (9:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.)

- 9:00 – 10:00 Opening devotions on renewing our strength and the first group of congregational renewal stories shared
- 10:15-11:30 Departmental Coaching
- 11:45-12:30 The second group of congregational renewal stories shared with celebration and closing prayer

Assignments: Create a “next-steps” strategy plan to keep renewal moving forward, determine the future of your Renewal Lab team, create second annual S.M.A.R.T. goals. review the dashboard, hold a celebration event with the CRL team, pastors read THE AGILE CHURCH



“More & Better” Conference
Sunlight Community Church Port St. Lucie, Florida

Sunday: FORM (Faith formation and the making of better disciples)

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|-----------------|--|
| 9:00-10:30 a.m. | Orientation (meet and greet, schedule of events, the discipleship focus, prayer) |
| 11:00 a.m. | Worship at Sunlight Community Church |
| 12:30-1:45 p.m. | Outdoor BBQ |
| 1:45-3:00 p.m. | The Sunlight Story and various testimonials |
| 3:00-5:00 p.m. | A refreshing walk/rest in the Florida sun |
| 5:00-6:30 p.m. | "Life on Life Disciple-making" (A mentored model of discipleship w/testimonies) |
| Evening | Super Bowl Party |

Monday:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8:30-9:15 a.m. | FORM (How disciples are made) Worship |
| 9:30-10:30 a.m. | "Four Stages of Faith Formation" |
| 10:45-Noon | "How People Get Moving" |
| Noon-1:00 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:00-2:30 p.m. | "Five Best Disciple-making Practices" & "What Type of Church Are You?" |
| 3:00-4:30 p.m. | "Drilling Down on Life-on-Life" |
| Evening | Supper in Jupiter, FL |

Tuesday:

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|-----------------|--|
| 8:30-9:15 a.m. | TELL (Gospel preaching in renewal congregations) Worship |
| 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Gospel Preaching (1) |
| 10:45 a.m.-Noon | Gospel Preaching (2) |
| Noon-1:30 p.m. | Outdoor boxed lunches |
| 1:30-2:30 p.m. | Gospel sermons shared in small groups |
| 3:00-4:30 p.m. | Critical Investments of Neighbor-Focused Congregations |

Wednesday:

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|-----------------|---|
| 8:30-9:15 a.m. | GO (Next steps in the renewal journey) Worship |
| 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Designing an Outreach Strategy |
| 10:30-Noon | Enhancing Hospitality |
| Noon-5:30 p.m. | Pool, golf, beach, river raft, tennis, etc. |
| Evening | Discussing your "next-step" strategies in peer groups (covenanting your next investments) |

