



**TEACH
EVANGELIZE
ADVOCATE
LEARN**

A Celebration of

Ministry

& Graduation

May 13 – 14, 2011

Church Membership Retention

As The Church Retains



“As the church retains” is a skit which depicts the life of a church where there is some good fellowship but members come and go and never seem to stay.

Introduction

- Church Retention: getting people in the door and getting them to come back
- why is this subject important?
- percentage of growth in the UMC has been steadily decreasing since 1970 (0.2% in 1970, -10.8% in 1980, -7% in 1990, -4.9% in 2000)

Guests

- Retention begins when a person first walks through your church's doors
- In the first 7 minutes we have the opportunity greet, love and extend our hand to make a long lasting friend in Christ.

Fellowship Friend

Involvement

- a person will continue to attend something that they are an active participator in
- Spectator vs. Participator

The Funnel

In order for everyone to get involved,
there have to be activities and roles
that fit every part of the funnel

(from Mike Selleck's talk).

Comedy Night

- non-traditional, ministries that will bring people in the door and cause other members who would not take a leading role in something spiritual to rise to the occasion

Outreaches

- Active ways to do ministry outside of the church. These are for people who may not enjoy a bible study but would love to do something outside to impact the community.

Fellowship Events (Covered Dish)

- Times to spend with each other in the church to enjoy with one another. the stronger that relationships are in a church, the more likely people are to stay in it.

Bible/Book Studies

- whether it's Philippians or Radical, something that will stimulate and involve the intellectually minded people in your church.

Discipleship

- Actively involving members in one on one ministry with one another.

Pray

God does nothing except in answer to prayer
(John Wesley).

Pray for your church and the surrounding
community and ask God to do great things.

Listen

- Listen to what the Lord has for your church, don't just assume what He wants because things work at other churches.
- Once you've found your church's identity and role within your community, start taking action towards becoming that church.
- Where God moves, people will go and stay.

T- Teach

E- Evangelize

A- Advocate

L- Learn