

Information Session

Clergy and Laity: Thursday,
August 21; Senoia United
Methodist Church at 7:00p.m.

Laity Phase I: Shared Learning

Laity Sessions will be held on
Saturdays at Senoia UMC. We
will gather 8:30am. Sessions
will run from 9:00am to Noon.

- ✦ September 20, 2014
- ✦ October 18, 2014
- ✦ November 15, 2014
- ✦ January 24, 2015
- ✦ February 28, 2015
- ✦ March 21, 2015

Clergy Phase I: Shared Learning

Clergy Sessions will be held on
Thursdays from 10:00am to
1:00pm and will rotate among
the churches.

- ✦ September 18, 2014
- ✦ October 16, 2014
- ✦ November 13, 2014
- ✦ December 15 (*10a-4pm)
- ✦ January 29, 2015
- ✦ February 26, 2015
- ✦ March 19, 2015
- ✦ April 14, 2015 (*10a-4pm)



The *Next Faithful Step Initiative* is a congregational, team-based journey designed to further equip congregations for a more fruitful congregational and community life. Trained coaches come alongside congregational leaders to help congregations effectively fulfill their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Next Faithful Step Phase I: Shared Learning

What is it? In Phase I, each church establishes a laity team of at least six (and as many as 10% of worship attendance) that meets with teams from cohort congregations for seven Saturday learning sessions. Appointed clergy attend a Thursday session just for pastors. It is imperative that the lead pastor and at least six laity attend all sessions. Associate pastors are encouraged to attend with the lead pastor. The laity team may include paid staff, but must include key leaders as well. These learning sessions are designed help each team learn key concepts and best practices to develop as congregational leaders. As a result, your congregation will develop a team of leaders to help it take its next faithful step.





The More You Know

Each session will consist of teaching, spiritual reflection, interaction with the ideas and concepts, and group sharing. Participants are required to read a book each month in order to contribute to each session's topic. **Each church (clergy & lay) team is required to meet at least once between sessions to debrief the session, discuss the readings, and to see how each person is doing with applying the learned concepts.**

- **Cost:** Each church (or congregational leader) is asked to purchase their books for Phase I.
- Books for the "Clergy Only" sessions will be provided.
- Any web links or videos will be emailed for viewing.

What's Next? Phase II includes 360° Evaluations, Hospitality Reports, On-Site Evaluations and Discovery of the Next Faithful Steps. **Phase III** includes Congregational Discernment and working with a trained coach to implement the discerned action plan. There will be additional costs for congregations in Phases II & III based on each congregation's Next Faithful Step Action Plan.

Phase I: What will we learn? Topics and Tentative Book List

Info Session - Dr. Phil Schroeder, Dr. Mike Selleck and Rev.

Jasmine Smothers: Clergy and Laity teams meet together on August 21 at Senoia UMC, 229 Bridge Street, Senoia, GA 30276 at 7:00 p.m.

September 2014 - "The Why: Getting Started"

Read: *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard* by Chip Heath and Dan Heath

Watch: Ted Talk - "Start With Why" by Simon Sinek

October 2014 - "The What: The Next Faithful Step"

Read: *Renovate or Die: 10 Ways to Focus Your Church on Mission* by Bob Farr with Kay L. Kotan

November 2014 - "The How: Making Disciples"

Read: *Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship for a Changing Church* by Michael W. Foss

CLERGY ONLY: December 2014 - "Communication"

Read: *Communicating for a Change* by Andy Stanley

January 2015 - "The Who: Working with Teams"

Read: *The Teaming Church: Ministry in The Age of Collaboration* by Robert C. Crosby

February 2015 - "The Where: Missional Mindsets"

Read: *The Externally Focused Church* by Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson

March 2015 - "The When: NOW!"

Read: *Bearing Fruit: Ministry with Real Results* by Lovett H. Weems, Jr.

CLERGY ONLY: April 2015 - "Vision"

Read: *The Power of Vision: Discover and Apply God's Plan for Your Life and Ministry* by George Barna