

Goals for 2008

The following goals were approved by the Church Council on November 27, 2007.

1. During 2008 we will practice “radical hospitality” by
 - a. Training and providing 2 greeters for each service whose duties will include assisting persons into the building and providing information concerning the facilities and programs of UUMC.
 - b. Creating a group to re-establish a manned Welcome/Hospitality Center that would be open on Sunday mornings with information about UUMC and offering coffee and pastries.
 - c. Developing a lay visitor follow-up plan that would contact visitors not later than Monday p.m. to express interest, provide information and answer questions, and extend an invitation to worship and other UUMC activities.
 - d. Creating a buddy/mentor system to pair current members with new members and frequent visitors to assist them find places of service and fellowship within our church family.
 - e. Offering one or more opportunities to become better at and more secure in establishing relationships with un-churched people, sharing our own faith stories, and inviting their participation at UUMC.
2. In addition to our use of the more passive ways of publicizing/advertising our presence and ministry in 2008, we will promote the building of relationships with those outside our membership by the following relational outreach activities:
 - a. The church, through the staff, Church Council and the Ministry Roundtable, will identify and initiate and/or significantly enhance 4 relational outreach activities per year (once a quarter) for the purpose of increasing our interaction with the community at large and expressing Christ’s love by addressing one or more felt needs.
 - b. Each small group (Sunday school class, choir, UMW circles, UMM, etc.) will be encouraged to support and participate in at least one church-wide relational outreach activity and/or to initiate one such activity of their own or with another group during the year.
3. Build upon this year’s emphasis on spiritual disciplines by initiating two activities/events to encourage spiritual growth (greater prayerfulness, greater attentiveness to the promptings and warnings of the Holy Spirit, deeper commitment to serving others, etc. among our members and those who worship with us.
4. In addition to the annual Faith-Promise Missionary Conference we seek to increase both missions participation and giving by 10 percent by
 - a. Promoting missions among children, youth, and adults by educating them on mission needs and opportunities worldwide and encouraging prayer and financial support.
 - b. Recruiting and sending a minimum of two VIM (volunteers-in-mission) teams (one domestic and one international) of adults and youth.
5. Continuing to support and encourage the forming of a sustainable young adult group which will initiate a ministry activity/event during 2008.
6. The church staff along with the Trustees will prepare a Disaster Response Plan to protect vital records and property and to facilitate care of the congregation in the event of a natural or man-made disaster and present it to the Church Council prior to the 2008 hurricane season (June 1).

The following goal was accepted in principle, but may be reworded:

7. Enhance and expand the Circle Up ministry.

The following mission statement is to be “field-tested,” that is we want you to discuss it with others, especially the unchurched, and see if it communicates what we believe God is calling us to do. Please pass on any feedback in writing to Charlie Langford.

8. A concise, memorable UUMC mission statement will be formulated and presented for approval at the first Church Council meeting of the year.

UUMC– Sharing Blessings. Sharing Burdens. Sharing the Good News of God’s Grace in Jesus Christ.