

Dear Atlantic Central District Clergy,

In follow up to the Congregational Vitality Plan Presentations in January, Gary Spencer and the Atlantic Central District Congregational Vitality (CV) Team will be implementing the “Health Plan” during the 3rd Quarter of 2017. The goal of the Health Plan is to improve the health and vitality of our local churches through the process of learning, sharing, and connecting with each other. We will do this through the creation of Regional Vitality Share Groups (VSG) which will provide a platform to share best practices and establish relationships that will help us leverage our connectional ideal. Peer Learning Groups are providing a great opportunity for our district clergy to become more connected and supportive of each other. The goal of the VSG’s will be to expand this concept to include both laity and clergy.

Five VSG Leaders have been selected to facilitate the VSG’s across the District. Each VSG will consist of 10-12 congregations (generally combining the churches from two existing Peer Groups) with the clergy Group Leader and a layperson serving as co-facilitators of the share group sessions. The Peer Learning groups will continue to meet two months during a quarter with a third quarterly meeting being the larger VSG. The CV team will provide support for the structure and content of the share group sessions initially with the first 2 share group sessions focusing on planning and strategic partnerships. Over time, share group leaders will be encouraged to work within their share groups to identify and develop content for the next quarterly meeting based on the unique needs of the mission field served by the churches within the share group. The CV team will continue to support the share groups with content and content experts as needed. The following will provide an overview of the VSG’s and the designated VSG Leaders.

VSG Leader

Churches

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| Corky Calhoun | Mims, 1 st Titusville, Grace/N. Merritt Is., 1 st Cocoa Beach, St. Andrews, The Open Door, Indian River City, Rockledge, 1 st Port St. John, Georgianna |
| Doug McClain | Wesley, 1st Melbourne, Suntree, Scott Chapel, Satellite Beach, St Marks, Christ Palm Bay, Emmanuel, St Paul's |
| Cliff Melvin | Sebastian, Wabasso Haitian, Christ by the Sea, Community FP, 1st Vero, Lakewood Park, Roseland, 1st Okeechobee, 1st Fort Pierce, Asbury, Fort Pierce Haitian, White City |
| Marta Burke | 1st Port St Lucie, 1st Jupiter Tequesta, Trinity JB, Northwood, 1st Hobe Sound, Trinity WPB, 1st Stuart, Oceanview, Lakeside, Trinity PBG |
| Dale Locke | Community of Hope/GS, St. Luke's, 1st Pahokee, Canal Point, UMC Palm Beaches, 1st Boynton, Faith, Community BG, St Peter's, 1st Hispanic, St John Haitian |

We ask that you embrace this very important movement in our district and that you begin to prayerfully consider the laity (about three to six) that you will be inviting to be regular participants in share group sessions. Some future quarterly meetings will be structured so as to be conducive that every participant in your congregation is invited to participate.

Our primary objective is to create a safe space where clergy and laity can share ideas, best practices, and challenges so that we truly may have healthy and vibrant churches throughout our District impacting Florida and the world. The VSG leader in your area will be contacting you with the meeting date, time and location of your first meeting.