

Advanced Renaissance Plan

Growing in Relationships

1. Consider each of the practices of your church in extending relationships beyond yourselves. How do you answer the questions for each practice?

Practice 1: Identifying Mission Fields – Who are our neighbors?

- *How are we getting to know the community around us?*
- *What have we been learning about our surrounding community? Are there any surprises?*
- *What potential “mission fields” have we identified in our surrounding community? How are these cultures similar or different from ours?*
- *What other steps might we take to identify specific mission fields (looking at our demographics and present ministries, community associations, local agencies, schools, police, walking neighborhoods, etc.)?*
- *What are the unique needs of others that we can help meet? What is our peculiar focus as a congregation (i.e., food, shelter, education or Christian formation vs. trying to do everything)?*

Practices 2 and 3: Making New Connecting Relationships

- *Who are we already making close relational connections with and who could we make close relational connections with?*
- *How will we connect relationally both with people we serve and with people who will join us in serving (e.g., One-to-Ones, Small Groups, Ministry Teams)?*
- *What teams do we have or can we create to develop these relationships?*
- *How can our teams be designed to support close personal relationships?*
- *Are we creating teams with leaders who support people on their spiritual journeys?*
- *Who are our missionaries? Who is passionate about reaching and serving others? Who has skills for this?*

2. What goals would we like to set? Have specific answers to three questions for each goal:

Goal	Who <i>(will do this)?</i>	What <i>(will they do)?</i>	When <i>(will it be done)?</i>

3. As you reflect on this workshop, what are some ways you hear God calling your community to new life?

a. What seems most important for your congregation to focus on at this time?

b. What would you like to build on or do differently?