
Revitalization for Increased Fruitfulness

We are rethinking God's will for our congregations at this moment in time. As we journey forward, we learn more of what God is calling us to do and be in our community.

Hinton Rural Life Center

Hinton Center has a long-standing commitment to serving small and rural churches and, out of this well-established focus, has crafted a new process by which Hinton supports and resources these churches. Hinton recognizes that the majority of United Methodist churches are categorized as small (100 average worship attendance or less). Therefore, Hinton encourages small and rural congregations through a process of transformational ministry whereby congregations respond through active, missional engagement. Ultimately, Hinton wants to spark renewed, creative thinking so that congregations are able to bear witness to Christ, connect with their communities, and experience fruitful ministry.



Hinton Vitality Ministry leaders will connect with your congregation through a 14 month, supportive process that encourages hopefulness and faithfulness. With a customized approach for each congregation, this ministry process helps congregational leadership teams become transformation agents within their respective congregations and within their communities. With high levels of congregational involvement and increased activity through missional engagement, these congregations will be empowered in ministry and will renew, broaden, and establish new connections with their communities. Through these new and renewed connections, congregations will take Next-Steps to move outside of the walls of the church, to build relationships with others, and to bring new people into the Kingdom of God. We believe the ultimate goal of this Next-Step Ministry is to win the Least, the Last and the Lost to Christ.

Hinton Vitality Ministry leaders:

Principle Ministry Consultant : Dr. Victor Dingus

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Reaching new people for Jesus Christ in our age in our time with the Gospel of Jesus Christ by taking Next Steps in Missional Ministry



After School Tutoring



Key Steps in The Next-Step Ministry

1. Preparations
 - A. District Superintendent selection of six to eight congregations
 - B. Pastoral and congregational commitment
 - C. Congregational leadership team formation (pastor and up to five lay persons)
 - D. Local, district leader identification as ministry resource persons (one per pastor)
2. Launch Event for congregational leadership teams.
3. 2 Day Workshop
 - Friday (6:00-9:00pm)
 - Saturday (9:00-3:00)
4. Vitality team work - Reflection by Pastors and leadership teams;
 - A. Who are we? – Identity
 - B. What is our mission? – Calling
 - C. Who is our neighbor? – Community demographics utilizing Missioninsite reports
 - D. What is our next step? – Making Specific Plans - (to be achieved in six weeks and to include no increase in the current budget. Funding always follows Vision)
5. Ministry resource people training. These individuals hold the local church and pastor in accountability to the steps and dreams and visions they develop increasing fruitfulness to as much as 95%.
6. Congregational leadership team implementation of next steps in ministry

with unlimited email and telephone support.

7. Pastor Check-In Session - to see how the process is moving and where additional resources are needed.
8. Support and accountability for congregational leadership teams in their Next-Steps Ministry
 - 4-5 follow-up sessions with pastors (3:00-5:00pm) and same day Team Training Workshop (6:00-8:00pm). These gatherings constitute the accountability component of the process.

(The Consultants customize this process to include other aspects of training and facilitation as deemed necessary by the local district leadership)

