



News from the Pews

February 3, 2019

Next Level Innovations: Next Steps

CUMC has now completed the Next Level Innovations Weekend, a three-day process where the **Weekend Innovation Team** (WIT) met with leaders and the congregation as a whole to listen and understand the church culture and context. The WIT got familiar with our building, interviewed the Pastor and key leaders, and held focus groups for newcomers/young adults and youth. More than 75 people attended an all-day session that provided an opportunity for the WIT to hear from the congregation. Mystery worshiper reports and other findings were presented. Finally, after praying, discerning, and writing all night long, the WIT presented the **Innovations Report** during our combined worship service last Sunday.

The **five recommended innovations** are below. More detailed information is included in the full report (copies available around the church and on our NLI website: nli.clarendonumc.org):

- 1. Vision Alignment:** Design a process to bring clarity and alignment around vision that is authentic to the identity of CUMC
- 2. Next Level Decluttering:** Focus on our facilities, communications, finances, and decision making policies and procedures.
- 3. Radical Hospitality:** Develop a comprehensive guest hospitality strategy to include: more greeters (inside and outside), signage, intentional connection points and more.
- 4. Who is my Neighbor?:** Explore how to connect with those in our immediate area, particularly young adults who make up the largest demographic.
- 5. Deeper Discipleship:** Develop a clear visual and descriptive program of discipleship, form 2-4 new small groups, train mentors and more.

PRAYERS *We have a designated, focused, prayer team that intentionally brings the concerns of the congregation before the Lord. If you would like someone added to the prayer list, or if you would like to be a part of this essential ministry, please contact the team by emailing us at clarendonprayerteam@gmail.com or calling the church office.*

NEXT LEVEL INNOVATIONS EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

The **NLI Town Halls** are opportunities to ask questions and reflect together on the Innovations Report that will be given this Sunday, January 27. All those who attend Clarendon UMC are welcome. Three different times are being provided for any who wish to attend:

Sunday, February 3, 9:45-10:45am, Corry Hall
Wednesday, February 6, 7:30-8:30pm, Corry Hall
Sunday, February 17, 9:45-10:45am, Corry Hall

Our church membership will meet **February 19 at 7:30 pm** to vote on whether or not to adopt the five innovations. 70% of the members present must vote to approve. If approved, the District will continue as our mentor to assist in implementation.

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, March 12, 7:30-9:00pm, CUMC Library

***Evicted: Poverty and Profit in an American City* by Matthew Desmond**

Join this informal group to discuss this brilliant, heartbreaking book as we enter the lives of eight families living on the edge. The fate of these families is in the hands of the landlords. As evictions rise in our country, Desmond provides insight into one of the most urgent issues today.

“FIX-UP TUESDAYS”

Tuesday evenings, 7:00pm

Help attend to a variety of maintenance tasks around the church. We change light bulbs, fix minor plumbing issues, organize rooms, clean, paint, insulate, etc. We meet in the hallway outside the choir room. Questions? Contact Barron Collier at barroncollier@gmail.com.

VALENTINE BAKE SALE

Sunday, February 10, 9:30am – 1:30pm

Come with your sweet tooth and support the Youth in their second annual Valentine bake sale. All proceeds will help to fund their mission trip to Honduras in June.

FAITH, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, February 14, 12:00–1:45 pm

To Russia With(out) Love, by Jane Dixon. Take a trip to the Baltic Sea and the countries that share this body of water and learn how Russia has influenced the region. For more information, contact the church office at office@clarendonumc.org.

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