

“One New Thing“ VBS

Fact: You will have more unchurched people on your property for VBS than any other time all year.

Mission: Great Commandment
Great Commission

Vision: “VBS for Outside Community” [Not the Inside Community]
All volunteers know, understand it, go with it.

Trend: Charging for expenses; buck the trend.

Media Blitz

- Website
- Facebook
- Community Bulletin Boards
- Flyers

Preparation

- Talk with volunteers about to talk with Children about Christ.
- Have a complete plan in place about where, how, and whom they will learn about Christ
- Month of prayer to spotlighting affirm Volunteers
- Pastor and staff's primary responsibility for the week is to connect with unchurched parents and kids.
- Attractive guest materials presented to each unchurched family.
- Forms that provide information for follow up
 - Birthday
 - Church affiliation (follow –up with that pastor)
 - Email addresses
- Share your child protection policy with parents

Family night (Thursday night for better response)

- More guest materials hands.
- Have SS teachers there for parents to meet.
- Recruit “First Contact” Team to talk with guests.

Special “Thank You” Breakfast for Volunteers on 1st morning.

Wrap-Up: What did we learn?

How will we change based on what we learn?

Follow-Up:

- Thank you cards to Parent with Picture of child.
- See you next year cards to children.
- Worship service spot for VBS kids the following week
- Child-focused follow up event in two weeks
- Community event within 30 days
- Birthday cards to unchurched children from Teacher and Pastor

Dover Connections Church Team Training Coordinator

Training Team Coordinator Job Description

The team member who serves as **Training Coordinator** has the duty to lead the team to promote church readiness to connect people to Christ and to connect the church with people in the community. The Training Coordinator will help identify church leaders to be trained. Schedule training events, and otherwise help connect church leaders with the resources they need for connecting new people with Christ and the church, conducting a new ministry(s), and reporting the results.

Promoting Church Readiness

1. First, identify what the church has selected as the Dover Connections Ministry Project.
2. Identify the key leader(s) that initiated the idea for the project and interview that person. What that person can share about the project and what it will take to accomplish the project? This person may be able to help you answer questions needed to develop a training menu. Often there are published resources available that can contain this information. If your church doesn't have information, check with your Dover office.
3. List the skills and abilities needed to accomplish the task. Again the initiator may have information that will answer your questions. You may need to interview others such as church leaders from other congregations who have previously been involved in similar projects or denominational leaders. The Dover Connections team contact for you is your Dover office or the Dover Connections Association Team Training Coordinator. Your church team can be a source for information. Meet together and discuss what it will take to complete the project successfully and effectively.
4. Identify and list the church volunteers who will be participating in the ministry project. You will need to know names and contact information. Your team should have this information.
5. You will need to determine what skills or abilities the volunteers possess in order to determine what training is needed. If it is not obvious, this can be done through questionnaires, individual, group interviews or a team meeting.
6. The next question to address is, what skills and abilities do the volunteers feel they are missing or are inadequate to make the project a success? As in number 5, this information can be gained through questionnaires, individual or group interviews. What do members of the team say about the project? What do published resources indicate as training needs? Consider the Dover Connections contact as your life-line.

7. Once training needs are identified, research available training resources. Your starting point should be your Dover Connections Training Team Leader. There may plans to offer training. Or Dover can help you facilitate your training.
8. If this is customized training, determine the desired outcome for the training experiences. What do you expect to happen once the training is completed?
9. Determine who is going to be responsible for the training event in your church. In most cases you will be the person who is in contact with the Dover Connections Training Team Leader.
10. Schedule the training in cooperation with the Dover Connections Team. This will avoid schedule conflicts and duplication of training efforts. Make sure there are no conflicts with the church calendar. Clear all training schedules through your team.
11. Work with your Dover association Connections Team to enlist training leadership and/or gather training resources. Other churches may have similar training needs.
12. Enlist participation. This requires personal contacts. Use face-to-face, e-mails, mail and published reminders. Never rely on public announcements. It takes personal and repeated invitations to ensure participation in events. An invitation by the pastor is best if possible.
13. Conduct and/or participate in the training.
14. Follow up after the event. Did the training provide you with the desired outcome? If not, what were the reasons? What can you do differently to improve the next training experience? You can find out some of this information by asking your participants. Communicate your findings to the Dover Team so that the Team can follow up.
15. Discuss what the next steps will be for your church. This should be done with the Dover Connections Team Training Leader.

Dover Connections Team contacts:

- The Association office
- Dean Frazier, Dover Connections Team Training Leader, dean.frazier@gmail.com (This is your first point of contact)
- Bill Alphin, VBMB and special consultant to Dover, bill.aphin@vbmb.org

Dover Connections Consultation Project

Purpose

The purpose of the Dover Connections Consultation Project (DCCP) is to help churches develop an awareness of non believers in their community, and coach church leaders and members to develop church and personal strategies to connect to non believers. The project will facilitate the development and implementation of actions to enter into spiritual conversations with non believers with the intent to transform lives for Jesus Christ. It is also the purpose of the DCCP to help the church assimilate those non believers into a life transformational Christian community through the ministries of the church.

Description

DCCP participating churches will receive leadership training, monthly consultant coaching and two on-site consultant weekend visits to lead church in strategic planning and implementation of actions that will help the church to connect with its community as a life transformational church. The Sunday School or small group ministry will function as the foundational, but not exclusive, church organization/ministry for implementation of the life transformational connections. The DCCP is not a prescription writing process. That is, the church is involved in all decisions during the DCCP. The consultant serves as a coach.

Timeline

March 9, 2010	Pastor and Sunday School Director Training; 7:00 p.m. Mechanicsville Baptist
May 17, 2010	Pastor, Sunday School Director, CC Project Team Leader and Age Group Leaders training meeting; 7:00 p.m. Cool Spring Baptist
June 3, 2010	Growth and Evaluation Training; 7:00 p.m. Cool Spring Baptist for Pastors and Sunday School Directors
July 22, 2010	Leadership Team Training; 7:00 p.m. Cool Spring Baptist for Pastors, Sunday School Directors, Church CC Project Team Leaders, Age Group Leaders and Outreach Leaders
Oct. 1-3, 2010	Consultant Weekend #1
Nov. 13, 2010	Age Group Training; 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Cool Spring Baptist
May 20-22, 2011	Consultant Weekend #2

Church Financial Responsibilities

1. Church pays \$1.00 per person using average worship attendance.
2. Church pays for four nights' lodging and meals for the consultant while on site.

Church Consultant

Assigned consultant will be matched to each church according to church needs. Each consultant will be a professional minister trained and experienced in Christian education and church growth. Sharon Smith, the LifeWay national coordinator will match the consultants with appropriate churches based on pastor interviews/consultation and church profile.

Questions and Answers

Why use the Sunday School and/or Small Group Ministry as the foundational ministry base?

1. The Sunday School is usually the largest church organization that involves the most people in church community life other than weekly worship services.
2. Most effective ministry and Christian faith formation is developed in some sort of small group community.
3. The Sunday School is designed to assimilate people into the life of the church through fellowship, ministry, networking and Bible study. Small group communities foster individual growth and ministries. Members find a safe place for support that encourages risk-taking.
4. The consultation process will not be limited to only the Sunday School. It will take into account all potential connection opportunities.

Why does my church need an outsider to lead us through a coaching process like the DCCP?

1. Qualified outside consultants can often bring a different perspective or fresh eyes to the church situation. Familiarity can de-sensitize long term church leaders to the church environment.
2. Competent consultants can bring a broader base of information and life experiences to the consultation process. The consultant can provide additional information to the congregation that can help the congregation make better informed decisions.
3. An outside consultant can serve as an interventionist who brings an outside perspective without the emotional baggage of church "family" and staff relationships. (The outsider can say things that need to be expressed without offending.)
4. Paradigm shifts often come from outside the system being changed.
5. A consultant can affirm decisions for future direction.
6. A consultation process helps the congregation become more intentional about new actions.
7. The consultant helps hold the congregation accountable for follow through on decisions.

How can I know the consultant will be a good fit for my church?

1. Sharon Smith will serve as the consultant-church coordinator. Sharon brings more than twenty years of national consultation experience to the process. Her experience has also provided her access to experienced consultants from across the country. Sharon has a proven track record.
2. Sharon Smith uses the interview process to determine church type and needs.
3. Sharon Smith involves the pastor in the consultant selection decision.

For additional information contact

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