**Council Retreat Proposal**

**July 27,2011**

***Preamble***

This is a draft of what the fall Council retreat could look like based on a conversation between Mike Plaisier and Pastor Willemina. This retreat would involve full council: admin, pastoral elders & deacons. Feedback is welcome on all aspects: goals, format, timeline. The key driving force to this retreat is the integration of rest & vision. How do we refamiliarize ourselves with the vision & mission statement while promoting rest, play and congregational connection? There are three possible timeline options—each with strengths and drawbacks. Other points to be determine by admin council:

* date
* location
* cost/budget

***Goals/Purpose***

* build cohesion among council members
* facilitate fun and celebration
* review Mission & Vision document
* brainstorm integration of rest and vision statement
* evaluate current energy level of leadership and congregation
* determine pressing felt needs of congregation
* create one major goal to present to congregation—based on rest/vision integration

***Three Format Options***

*Option 1: Overnight: Friday- Saturday*

Friday night

* 7 p.m. Arrival
* 7:30 – 8 p.m. Meet & Greet
* 8 - 9:30 p.m. Devotional/Small group prayer time
* 9:30 – bedtime Hang-out/Games

Saturday

* 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (optional)
* 8 – 8:45 a.m. Breakfast
* 8:45 – 9 a.m. Opening Worship/Litany
* 9 – 10:30 a.m. Community Life discussion

*Review Mission & Vision document—with the four underlying goals.*

*Determine the key values of Good News’ community life.*

*Evaluate the energy level & felt needs of the congregation/leadership.*

* 10:30 – 45 a.m. Break
* 10:45 – 12:15 p.m. Small group work

*Divide into small groups with each group focused on one of four goals. Brainstorm with group how to integrate rest/celebration as a means to move forward with that goal.*

* 12:15 – 1 p.m. Lunch
* 1 – 2:30 p.m. Small group/Large group presentation

*Present your best idea (from what your small group brainstormed) in a creative way to the rest of the group. Together, we’ll decide which one idea to pursue.*

* 2:30 – 3 p.m. Closing Worship & Prayer

*Option 2: Friday night & Saturday (not sleep over)*

Friday Night

* 6:30 p.m. Arrival
* 7 – 7:30 p.m. Meet & Greet
* 7:30 - 9 p.m. Devotional/Small group prayer time

Saturday

* 8:45 – 9 a.m. Opening Worship/Litany
* 9 – 10:30 a.m. Community Life discussion
* 10:30 – 45 a.m. Break
* 10:45 – 12:15 p.m. Small group work
* 12:15 – 1 p.m. Lunch
* 1 – 2:30 p.m. Small group/Large group presentation
* 2:30 – 3 p.m. Closing Worship & Prayer

*Option 3: Saturday*

* 8:30 a.m. Arrival
* 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Meet & Greet
* 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. Devotional/Small group prayer time
* 10:45- 11 a.m. Break
* 11 – 12:30 p.m. Community Life discussion
* 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. Lunch
* 1:15 – 2:30 p.m. Small Group work
* 2:30 – 4 p.m. Small group/Large group presentation
* 4 – 4:30 p.m. Closing Worship & Prayer