

First United Methodist Church

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Over all, I am really a very healthy person. Yet, like everyone else here on planet earth, every so often I start to feel ill. Maybe there's a temperature, a headache, a queasy feeling, a pain where there usually isn't one, etc. After a few days to a week, whatever bug it was passes, I'm over it and life gets back to normal. Yet, on occasion there are moments when the illness lingers on. That's when I get to the point of calling my health care provider and making an appointment.

Once I arrive at the clinic, the usual happens; step on the scale, we're going to take your blood pressure, etc., etc. When the doctor comes in to see me, the individual usually looks at my chart, looks at my numbers, listens to my heart and lungs, and then usually listens to me. My health care provider is good at asking questions and then listening to me, asking follow-up questions, and then listening some more. At some point after the examination and the listening, this medical professional pulls out a pad and starts writing. It's a prescription with instructions or steps for me to follow to move toward greater health and wholeness.

In recent weeks and months, we've been hearing about "prescriptions" that our church will receive as a part of our MCCI weekend coming up September 21, 22, 23. Of course a question I hear every so often is, "What will our prescriptions be?" My answer is, "I don't know. They haven't been written yet." Every consultation team I've been a part of has produced different prescriptions that fit the church and ministry setting. In fact, the "church" prescriptions are always a product of careful listening, just like in the doctor's office.

One of the main reasons the MCCI Consultation Team comes to the local church where the consultation is being held is to meet with people and listen. They listen for strengths, concerns, and they listen for the hopes and dreams that people believe God has for their church. This is why it is so important that as many of our church family as possible attend our Saturday gathering during our MCCI Weekend, September 22.

During the Saturday Seminar we'll hear about God Stories, some of which we've been hearing throughout the summer in our Splash Stories. It will also be a time of hearing the report from the mystery worshippers and hearing other information about our community. But most importantly, it will be a time of listening to you our church family and having you share your prayerful hopes and dreams for the future of our church. This is truly what the MCCI Consultation Team looks and listens for when they are here with us. This is part of what the Breakthrough Prayer is all about; God breaking through in our hearts and lives and in our hopes and dreams that we share relating to our church and the future.

Join us at the church on Saturday, September 22 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm for our Saturday Seminar. This will be an important time of helping shape our church for ministry, service, making disciples, and for moving in the direction God has for our future. **Also plan on joining us for worship on Sunday, September 23 at 10:00 am.** (There will be just one worship service.) This is when we will receive our prescriptions and we want to do this as one worshipping family. Please join us for this powerful God-filled weekend. I'm praying for Breakthroughs with you!!

Serving Together,

Pastor Keith

Hey Everybody, remember this Sunday we go back to 2 service; 8:30 and 11:0 am. Sunday School starts at 9:45. Come join us!!! It's going to be a great day!!