

# MUMC Connectionalism Strategy Team

09/20/2023

In Person: Andy Bryan, Linda Horodenski, Becky Strickland, Mary Beth Harper, Barb Stevens

Zoom:

Absent: Roxanne Miller, Ethan Massey, Dick Vreeland

Resigned from group: Will Koehl, Jim Lange

Andy – opening prayer

Shared draft proposal from Mission/Vision task force:

Our Mission: To make a difference for Christ in the world.

Our Vision: To extend divine love and grace to ALL as God transforms the church, community and the world. Together we...

- Love, worship, and serve Christ
- Build a diverse, inclusive community
- Inspire deeper understanding of God

Task Force recommended not to have the Welcome statement as much of focus – list of inclusions can feel like token recognition of checking list of naming groups.

Discussion of ways times may have changed as a progression of growing beyond explaining each group of people

Used elements of prior phrasing in new.

Lace phrases into marketing throughout programs, signage, classes, etc.

Next steps for Connectionalism team:

Develop focus groups: existing groups, what do we want to know, develop script

Questions: do these statements accurately reflect our story? Our identity? Do these statements align with your vision for the church? Does this evoke alignment with future direction?

We want buy in. Is there something missing? Focus groups help with feeling like have input. Ask people input of how to roll out the new statements. Not want bog down in word-smithing. Focus groups help identify common themes of feedback.

Reach out to leaders who developed Welcome Statement about the planned shift of focus  
How handle the ease the transition and communicate safe space

Convey usage of phrasing not losing Welcome Statement – transforming it