

Grace Transition Team minutes

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

What are our core values?

- Biblical authority: the Word is our foundation
- Unity in essentials: that which unites us is greater than that which divides us
- Welcomingness: we welcome strangers, we show love for each other, we value relationships and making new relationships
- Serving each other: we have an active ministry to insiders
- Personal discipleship: we believe God wants to transform our lives
- Relationships: we encourage drawing near to each other , to God and to others
- Evangelistic missional focus: we want to have an outward-looking perspective, looking outside of the church for opportunities to be Jesus' hands and feet
- Community: as we move towards Christ together we become bonded to one another

How do we make ourselves more welcoming?

- Follow up with new people
- Make sure they are greeted
- Welcome lunch for new people
- Have information available on small groups, children's events, opportunities for service, etc. at a table or bulletin board

How do we keep people?

- Give people a place to fit in and connect; include new people
- Love one another
- Not us vs. them: be more inclusive, less legalistic
- Train more small group leaders (to create more membership slots)
- Grace is very family oriented; single parents don't feel comfortable

What are some of the things about Grace that put people off?

- Cliques
- Groups are all established; not open to newcomers

What are the problems/challenges in this community that the church might help with?

- Public schools need help: tutoring, library, adopt schools, decrease in parent volunteerism means fewer people doing work with kids
- Substance abuse is rampant
- Single mothers need support for their kids

What are the demographics of our neighborhood?

- We really have no idea