

# **TRANSFORMING CHURCHES – A JOURNEY OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**July 26-28, 2010**

## **Clarifying the Purpose, Objectives, and Content of this Seminar**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this seminar, *Transforming Churches - A Journey of the People of God* is to introduce church leaders to a practical process for guiding congregations through a time of discerning anew how to participate in God's mission more faithfully and fruitfully.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of this seminar are to:

1. Begin to develop process understandings and tools foundational to missional renewal in the church.
2. Explore and test theological presuppositions about the nature and purpose of the church.
3. Become familiar with a journey template of missional renewal and key elements specific to coaching for that journey.
4. Use participants' own experience as well as the instructors' as a source for learning and professional development.

## **Realistic Expectations you can have of this Learning Experience**

During the course of this seminar, participants can expect to...

1. Be part of a variety of different groupings.
2. Explore aspects of the church's current context for ministry.
3. Identify your theological presuppositions about the church.
4. Become familiar with recent theory and practice related to the process of congregational formation toward a missional identity and vocation.
5. Be introduced to some new skills and tools for supporting congregational transformation.
6. Explore case studies and engage in process experiences to help you to apply learnings to your ministry situations.
7. Try out new ways of thinking, new ways of perceiving, and new ways of behaving in a safe environment.

## **Norms that help to shape a Learning Community in this seminar**

These norms help to create the kind of environment needed to maximize our learnings. Some norms are suggested below. Others will be added as our life together in this seminar commences. It is OK – even helpful to –

1. Get up and move about as needed.
2. Share our experience, explore, and learn from it with the help of the group.
3. Try out some new ways of thinking, new ways of perceiving, and new ways of behaving.
4. Think out loud.
5. Practice your best active listening skills.
6. Disagree, express divergent points of view.
7. Seek more information.
8. Be informal and playful.
9. Take responsibility for your own learnings.

**TRANSFORMING CHURCHES - A JOURNEY OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD: July 26-28, 2010**

Monday, July 26	Tuesday, July 27	Wednesday, July 28
<p>9:00am Worship                      Introductions                      Contracting for our time together                      Building our learning community.</p> <p><b>Introduction and Orientation to Missional Transformation</b></p> <p>Transformation: What is involved?                      Interacting with a “case” for transformation and testing with your experience                      Bible study – a key practice</p>	<p>8:00am Breakfast</p> <p>9:00am Worship and Bible study  <b>Seasons of a Journey:</b>  <b>DISCOVERING:</b> <i>Why does the world need the church, and ours in particular?</i>                      Creating readiness in the congregation                      Discovering what’s going on “out there” and “in here” – your missional context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Engaging in a study process: sharing our experience.</li> <li>✓ A conference on the Present</li> <li>✓ Why does the world need our churches?</li> </ul>	<p>8:00am Breakfast</p> <p>9:00am Worship and Bible study  <b>Seasons of a Journey:</b>  <b>EMBODYING:</b> <i>How will we live into God’s future?</i>                      Linking missional priorities with concrete action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Refining ministry, discovering new passions – an exercise</li> <li>✓ Empowering the governing council, exploring a new role and practices</li> </ul> <p>Resources that support the transformation journey</p>
<p>12:30pm Lunch</p>	<p>12:30 Lunch</p>	<p>12:30 Lunch</p>
<p>2:00pm</p> <p>Goals of a Journey of the People of God                      Theological foundations and implications of a missional transformation journey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ What is compelling?</li> <li>✓ How does this fit with your experience?</li> <li>✓ How could we engage our people to introduce a new way of thinking?</li> </ul> <p>5:00 p.m. adjourn</p>	<p>2:00pm</p> <p><b>Seasons of a Journey:</b>  <b>DISCERNING:</b> <i>What is God calling us to be and do in this time and place?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ From ‘vision’ to communal discernment.</li> <li>✓ Testing personal visions</li> <li>✓ Designing a time of discernment for a church</li> </ul> <p>Navigating by God’s vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Focusing God’s Vision</li> </ul> <p>5:00 p.m. adjourn</p>	<p>2:00p.m.</p> <p><b>Focusing the judicatory for transformation</b></p> <p>They why and what of regional strategies supporting congregational transformation</p> <p>Claiming and integrating our learnings</p> <p>Closure</p> <p>4:00 p.m. adjourn</p>
<p>6:00pm Dinner</p>	<p>6:00 pm Dinner in local eatery (optional)</p>	