

LOOKING FORWARD

Riverside Presbyterian
1910-2010

Riverside Presbyterian is on the threshold of a second century of faithfulness to God's call. Just as it is a time for reflecting back with pride and pleasure, it is also a time for looking forward to discern God's call for the future.

With that in mind, the 2006 Session approved the formation of a Strategic Planning Committee to help order and direct our priorities for the next few years. Charles Cooper, Mary Coxe, Steve Goyer and Julie Handley met for eight months. Our readings and study led us to seek a broader and deeper planning process

The newly constituted Planning Committee has approximately 50 members and will be guided by an eight-member Calendar Committee. We met for the first time on October 2, and expect to continue to meet about once a month until Thanksgiving 2008.

Our intention is that our work will be transparent and inclusive. We expect to spend the first six months reflecting, learning, and most importantly, listening to each other. We value candor, positive attitude, respect for other opinions and an openness to change. Through that learning experience, we will begin to identify the questions and issues that demand our attention and, in summer and fall 2008, will begin to address them and chart Riverside's course for the next three to five years.

We very much value the views and opinions of every member of the congregation. To that end we will keep you informed of what goes on in our meetings and solicit your feedback. There will be a report of each meeting in The Messenger, and soon on the church website. Look for the new "Looking Forward" logo.

Also, in an effort to be as inclusive as possible, each Planning Committee member has selected and will soon contact at least three "Nielsen" families, named in honor of the old TV Nielsen rating system. We will discuss issues of concern and interest with our Nielsen families and report their thoughts back to the larger Planning Committee.

If you are asked to be a Nielsen family, please say "yes." If you would like to be a Nielsen family, please contact either Mary Coxe (mary.coxe@gmail.com or 387-9618) or Mary Kress Littlepage (mekl@comcast.net or 384-8496) and we will make every effort to include you.

Our meeting of October 2 was full of enthusiasm and positive energy as we introduced and described ourselves and then offered adjectives to describe our church. In our next meeting we will review the results of the Congregational Survey and wrestle with what they mean.

It is an exciting time in our journey of faith. Please keep our committee in your prayers as we listen and learn. Please join with us in the adventure.

Calendar Committee

Cindy Barfield
Steve Goyer
Steve McAlister

Sherrie Calvert
Peter King
Matt Weaver

Mary Coxe
Mary Kress Littlepage

Planning Committee:

Duncan Baker	Walt Brinkman	Arden Brugger
Eleanor Carswell	Ham Cooke	Charles Cooper
Susannah Doherty	Erin Duchanois	Joe Eberly
Thad Eshelman	Ami Flynn	Tim Friedl
George Gabel	Brian Galbraith	Joey Gaskin
Jim Gleaton	Julie Handley	Mark Harbison
Jamie Hoener	Jean Howey	Nancy Hoyt
Ella Jones	Madeline Kerr	Norma Lockwood
Ben McDonald	Linda Moseley	Kathy Para
Randy Parks	Ben Phillips	Debbie Pierson
Nancy Powell	Pam Roberts	Peggy Scheu
Angela Schifanella	Ed Schoenberger	Nancy Splane
Pat Thieb	Cheryl Tupper	Vance Walker
Lisa Williams		