

PROPOSED Policy for Improving Ministry

In our church covenant one of the promises we make is:

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines;

And we also promise:

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feelings and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, and always ready for reconciliation, mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

So when we see that a particular ministry can be improved, whether done by an individual or a group, we will do the following.

1. If God has revealed a need in the body to a person, He is often calling that person to fill the need. The person who sees the need will often be the one to help fulfil that need. They should seek out those who might be involved in that ministry area or talk to the Pastor.
2. If a person or group has responsibility in the area of the perceived need, the person who sees the need will offer to help and encourage the person or group so the ministry can be improved.
3. If there is a need and there is no person or group responsible for that area, and the person sensing the need feels they are not gifted or called to that ministry, they should seek out those God may be calling to that area of ministry, and offer to help and encourage them.

If a church member engages in step 2 above and their ideas for improvement are not accepted it may be that:

- A. Clear communication may not have occurred.
- B. The person or group may have a different plan or vision for improving the ministry.
- C. There may be a difference in personalities or giftedness.

If the person feels led by the Lord that improvement is still needed, they will take their concerns to the Church Planning Council. The Church Planning Council will facilitate communications and possible improvement. When differences are intense, it may be necessary to follow Matthew 18:15-35 as per our church covenant.

If the person feels led by the Lord that improvement is still needed, the person will take their concerns to the Deacons. The Deacons will facilitate communications and possible improvement and will ensure that Matthew 18 is being followed if appropriate.

Only after the above steps to seek improvement have been pursued will a member bring a plan for improvement of a ministry to the church body as a whole in a Ministry Meeting.