**At our May 3, 2023 faculty Retreat/Meeting we Identified three areas for “Immediate Action.” One of these was:** Opening Dubuque Offerings to the Local/Regional Church (aka “Invite the Community”)

These are the ideas we collected on Post-its at the **May 3, 2023 retreat:**

* On our new website, share faculty bios and availability for local events, speaking and workshops
* On our new website, tell the story of God’s love and how we invite folks, not just students, to deeper discipleship
* On our new website, list UD/UDTS events and invite local regional participation. Make us a destination for pastoral renewal and laity discipleship
* On our new website, offer resources for pastoral and lay renewal
  + How to have difficult conversations
  + List coaching/spiritual direction suggestions
  + Prayer
* On our new website, collect an email list of friends of UDTS who want periodic emails and pastoral/laity renewal
* On our new website: offer a way to sign up for a newsletter that offers articles, short tips, music, art, etc, curated by faculty for pastoral renewal
* Workshops
  + Workshops: The structure of my week, how do I use technology?
  + Workshops/scholarship sharing
  + Hold workshops on:
    - How to ID human trafficking
    - How to hold a great meeting
    - How to respond to brain health events in worship
    - How to rely on / refer to DBQ nonprofits
    - How to fundraise
    - How to read financials (church finances for dummies)
    - How to manage decline with grace and dignity
    - How to deal with aging church buildings
  + One time topical offerings (workshop/webinar)
* Bulletin insert: Inform local churches that the chapel services are available and welcoming (Mon/Wed)
* Local pastors invited for guest conversations in class or head-to-head Zoom chats
* Morning Prayer includes Sunday lectionary discussion, invite pastors. Maybe better to do this on Tuesdays at coffee shop
* Invite pastors as guest speaker to class
* Focus on pastors’ needs more than faculty preferences
* Invest in online and social media presence
* Utilize other spaces in Dubuque for events
* Brown bag sabbatical
* CLP classes in person – reach out to churches
* Other colleges / colleagues
* Collaborations with Wartburg, Loras, Clarke, Emmaus
* Invite local pastors to audit
* Change / lower audit costs. Currently $395 credit
* Continuing Ed: Host monthly “teaching” in person and on Zoom ie Bible, history, Budget
* Invite to chapel + all worship, morning evening prayer
* Guest preachers as different pastoral identities, which is crucial to the pastoral identity formation of our students. Then have pastors share their call over lunch
* Do more advertising for the seminary: Christian radio ads, feature a program or student in TH. Many in DBQ don’t know UD has a seminary.
* Marketing lecture events
* Online lecture events
* Local pastors to lead morning/evening prayer
* Expand continuing education for laity: Paul, what is evangelism? How to write a sermon. What is the gospel?
* Invite promote local communities to CLP versions of:
  + Disciple formation 1
  + Gospel in Context
  + Starting Missional Communities
  + OT/NT Intro
* Invite laity to intro bible classes, partner with local churches for this as “CE program,” special pricing
* Use local worship spaces for classes (DACU connection?)
* Retreat spaces (offices) for area pastors who join our rhythms of prayer and fellowship
* Reinvent rural ministry program
* Phase out residential. Use Mondays to host 4-week broad interest topical courses. May be taken by local pastors, CLPs, or our localish distance students
* Pastoral reading groups/ book studies
* Volleyball / croquet / bocce ball on the quad / lunch
* FTF offering classes to UD employees
* Advertise panel or guest speakers
* No lectures in alumni, use Smith welcome center
* Remodel Alumni, hospitable, clean space
* More reading retreats, co-working in the rhythm of prayer
* Daily prayer or Eucharist
* Cave.com (online support for working together)
* Co-sponsor retreat days with local congregations
* CLP conference
* Invite judicatory leadership, moderator to speak at chapel
* Particular classes for groups:
  + Group rate / audit rate
  + Officers take theology
  + Elders take preaching
  + Deacons take caregiving
  + Sunday school teachers – take formation

**Some practical avenues (synthesis):**

* Invite pastors/saints/UD faculty-staff into classes
  + August CLP courses (1st week)
  + Gospel in Context (CLP version) – by invitation?
  + Disciple Formation 1 & 2 (in DBQ) [promote online]
  + Starting Missional Communities (CLP version) – once a month?
* Promote the Guest Lectures: 8/8 (Allen Hilton, House United)
* Learning Events: Workshops, Research sharing, Book club
* Guest speakers in classes / chapel
* Invite community into prayer rhythms/chapel moments
  + liturgists

**Tasks**:

1. Articulate the “why” – hopes and possibilities
2. Identify the challenges, obstacles, risks
3. Form an action plan for 2023-24
4. Delegate tasks

**To do**

* Promote August CLP offerings
* Create CLP version of GIC, determine coursework for that, make invitations
* Determine format for DF1 with regional participants (bi-weekly, monthly?)
* Promote DF offering

St. Pat’s free meal – downtown food ministry. invite Stephanie Schlimm. 1st Cong Nicki (paying mission to provide the meals). New Rescue Mission Director? Mission Urban Ag garden – Rachel Schmidt Boeke

HTLC – Jason, come to chapel.

Get the calendar of CLP offerings set further ahead (Jan 1 for 14 months).

McCormick is all about Chicago.

Susan – will make poster for DF 1. Worried they won’t finish. Need 1-1 relationships. Two retreats.

8/8 – Ministerium –

Workshop? 1:30 1:45 –

Class starts at 1pm.

Sat. 10/14 – happening at St. John’s – Preaching Summit – co-sponsor.

Jointly sponsored Wartburg, UDTS. Lunch. Refreshments. Registration.