

Neighborhood Cluster Conversations

Purpose: An opportunity for leadership to listen to the congregation concerning:

- Sharing ideas for a new plan for ministry or mission
- Listening actively to the community's response
- Offering spiritual devotional moments and fellowship

Time frame: 1 ½ hours

Place: In homes of hosting families

Leaders: Devotional Leader (to provide spiritual centering or worship)
Convener (to present ministry plan and ask questions)
Recorder (to record all shared information – check for confidentiality)
Hosts (to share home and refreshments)

Format: Eight to 12 people per meeting (including leaders)

7:00 p.m. Devotions or spiritual centering
7:30 Presentation of ministry plan

7:45 Question and answer period

8:00 Refreshments and fellowship

8:30 Must close conversation at this time

Follow-up: All information collated, recommending report formed and presented to the Administrative Council, District Strategy Team, district superintendent, and included in application. The congregation of the sponsor church and other stakeholder congregations must hear about the results of the cluster conversations as soon as possible.

Notes:

1. Host sites can be listed in geographical preference. Host families send the invitation, along with letter from pastor.
2. Pastor or project leader will need to present a devotional guide for worship leaders. Each person may adapt the guide to their personal style and/or understanding.
3. Listening session leaders should not be surprised if the attendance is low. Provide for one or two follow-up sessions at the church to re-invite those unable to attend the early session.
4. Conveners or project leaders must not argue or defend the project. Just present the ministry plan, questions or ideas and listen to the response. If there are controversial or staffing issues asked, you can refer them to the proper committee. The conversation must stay centered upon the concepts presented in the ministry plan.

All cluster meetings need to be completed within two weeks