

Tower Chimes Article for June, 2010

*“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things...”*

John 14:26

Have you reviewed your copy of Wesley's 4-year ministry plan lately? This plan was birthed a little over a year ago, and our goal is to have it be a living document. (If you are not able to find your copy, you can pick one up at the church office.) You may have noticed that in the Evangelism portion of that plan, Item #13--Prepare a church brochure--has been completed. There are copies of it in the office and in the narthex.

And we have a vision and a plan for these brochures. Not only will they go into our visitor's gift bags, so that new people who come to worship can get a big snapshot of the life and ministries of our church, but these brochures will be going on another journey. Sometime in the next few weeks members of Wesley Church will be doing a neighborhood canvass on the streets right around our church. Before we do this we will spend time in prayer to prepare ourselves. When we do the actual canvass, we will go two by two and knock on doors. And we will ask the person who comes to the door this question: Is there anything for which you would like prayers? If they say "Yes," we will pray with them. If not, we will leave and church brochure and a copy of our new youth calendar of events sheet. It is also our plan to do a follow-up later, in which we will invite them to our Vacation Bible School program and church picnic.

This is definitely an out-of-the-box venture for us here at Wesley. However, we know that God sends us out every day to be people on a mission to take the Good News of his redeeming love into the world. And this is just one aspect of that mission.

So in the days ahead I'd like you to consider doing these things: First, pray for this new venture as we seek to reach out to the neighborhood, as Jesus has commissioned us to do. Second, consider being part of a 2-person canvassing team, just as Jesus' disciples also went out two-by-two at his direction. Third, anticipate new people coming into the church, and think about how you can welcome them.

We know that God's Holy Spirit will teach us how to do all of these things, and then empower us to do them.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Ruth