

## **Passionate about Worship Team ( PAW)**

The Bethel Leadership Team (BLT) believes that God has led them to develop a set of Core Values that they will be presenting to the church in January 2019 asking Bethel to adopt them as the core values that will guide all that we do at Bethel in the future. One of these Core Values is as follows:

### **Passionate About Worship**

We believe our weekly worship time should be an overflow of our daily walk and our Discipleship Team time with the Lord. We worship and honor God with our whole heart, mind, body and spirit. We support our pastor's allocation of his time to studying the Bible and praying so that he can lead us in Bible centered preaching that comes from an overflow of what God is doing in his life. We lead our weekly worship times to honor and praise God in ways that will bring unity in our church and attract those in our community that are not yet in our church family. We are passionate about worship and passionate about effectively bringing the message to all people. We do this by staying relevant and adaptive within biblical parameters to best reach our community with a special focus on reaching the teens and young adults (the next generations). Though we have set times to worship as a church family, we also make worship our everyday lifestyle; our daily actions are inspired by our desire to worship the Lord.

As can be seen in these words, worship is a vital part of our ministry. In many situations it will be the entry point for people to our discipleship process where we connect with people. God is at work in this and we want to listen to Him as He reveals the methods He wants us to use to be the most effective in connecting with others. Equally important is that worship is the time when our whole church family comes together making it the key time to enrich our unity as a church family.

**Numbers 13:1-2 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup> "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders." ...<sup>20</sup> How is the soil? Is it fertile or poor? Are there trees on it or not? **Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land.**" (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.)

The BLT is asking that a team of people, many who are currently leading our worship, to go explore 4 churches in our general area who appear to be very effective in reaching the next generation. How these 4 churches carry out their worship services is believed to be one reason these churches are being effective in reaching the next generation. The BLT is asking the **Passionate about Worship Team ( PAW)** to assess what these churches are doing in worship and ask God to lead our church to develop a plan for worshipping that will be effective in reaching the people in the Oakway community. We are not asking the PAW Team to duplicate any one of these churches but to use these visits to give them ideas of how to be more effective in our community of attracting all age groups (especially teens and young adults) and to continue to build unity within our church family.

This team of people will be made of up of four three-person teams or something close to that. During the months of January and February 2019 each three-person team will attend a different one of the four churches. So, on any one week, there could be one of the three-person teams in all four of the churches.

It is requested that the PAW Team develop a set of questions or comments to guide the assessment each week at each church. The focus should be on the style and content of the service. There are many other elements about the church like parking for visitors, welcome center, greeting, etc. that are important. We are not asking for all of this to be looked at. For now, it just the content of the service like order of service, type of music, length of service, etc.

Christy Peters has assembled the 4 teams and is coordinating the schedule. The four churches are planned to be Cross Point, Life Point, Foothills, and New Springs. The team can be altered in number. Also, other churches may be visited in place of one or more of these, or in addition to these, as determined by the PAW Team.

Elizabeth Hart will be on the team as a resource person. Since people who are currently involved in leading worship at Bethel are on the team, we are asking the congregation to be aware what they are doing and accept that this will have an impact on the services at Bethel during January and February 2019. We will ask everyone at Bethel to pray for these teams. We will also pray specifically during our Bethel worship time for these teams that God will guide them and reveal to them the things that He wants us to do at Bethel.

In early February the PAW team is requested to come to a BLT meeting and share what they have learned and discuss what actions they recommend be taken.

Please pray for the team and contact any of them if you have questions or suggestions. The objective is to be obedient to God and lead our church in worship as He wants us to bringing honor and glory to Him.

The members of the PAW Team are:

Cindy Myers

Drew Myers

Melinda Harbin

Kelly Harbin

Steve Roach

Helen Roach

Mike Foster

Kathy Foster

Luanne Nutall

Dylan Echols

Kristin Clardy

Christy Peters

Elizabeth Hart