



**TEACH**  
**EVANGELIZE**  
**ADVOCATE**  
**LEARN**

**A Celebration of**

**Ministry**

**& Graduation**

**May 13 – 14, 2011**

# Church Membership Retention

# As The Church Retains



“As the church retains” is a skit which depicts the life of a church where there is some good fellowship but members come and go and never seem to stay.

# Introduction

- Church Retention: getting people in the door and getting them to come back
- why is this subject important?
- percentage of growth in the UMC has been steadily decreasing since 1970 (0.2% in 1970, -10.8% in 1980, -7% in 1990, -4.9% in 2000)

# Guests

- Retention begins when a person first walks through your church's doors
- In the first 7 minutes we have the opportunity greet, love and extend our hand to make a long lasting friend in Christ.

Fellowship Friend

# Involvement

- a person will continue to attend something that they are an active participator in
- Spectator vs. Participator

# The Funnel

In order for everyone to get involved,  
there have to be activities and roles  
that fit every part of the funnel

(from Mike Selleck's talk).

## Comedy Night

- non-traditional, ministries that will bring people in the door and cause other members who would not take a leading role in something spiritual to rise to the occasion

# Outreaches

- Active ways to do ministry outside of the church. These are for people who may not enjoy a bible study but would love to do something outside to impact the community.

## Fellowship Events (Covered Dish)

- Times to spend with each other in the church to enjoy with one another. the stronger that relationships are in a church, the more likely people are to stay in it.

# Bible/Book Studies

- whether it's Philippians or Radical, something that will stimulate and involve the intellectually minded people in your church.

# Discipleship

- Actively involving members in one on one ministry with one another.

# Pray

God does nothing except in answer to prayer  
(John Wesley).

Pray for your church and the surrounding  
community and ask God to do great things.

# Listen

- Listen to what the Lord has for your church, don't just assume what He wants because things work at other churches.
- Once you've found your church's identity and role within your community, start taking action towards becoming that church.
- Where God moves, people will go and stay.

T- Teach

E- Evangelize

A- Advocate

L- Learn