

SURFACE TO SOUL

Live Well | Lead Well | Coach Well

Forming Faith Through Worship Settings

TRANSFORMATIONAL WORSHIP

Our weekly worship settings are designed to usher people into God's presence and to experience the sacred in their lives. Through music, liturgy, and the sacraments, it's our desire to create spiritually rich experiences where people grow in faith, celebrate what God has done and continues to do in people's lives, and help people interpret the Christian life. Using the narrative lectionary, we view worship as one of the prime opportunities for people to experience the Good News, learn about the stories and people found in the Bible, and to translate these stories into a faith that relates to daily life.

We will use worship and large group experiences as vehicles for teaching people faith practices that can be replicated at and beyond the congregation. These practices include praying, reading and reflecting on scripture, having faith-related caring conversations, and introducing meaningful rituals and traditions. These experiences will include "take home" activities that can be used in homes, cars, workplaces, and community settings.

WAYS FAITH PRACTICES WILL BE WOVEN INTO WORSHIP & LARGE GROUP SETTINGS

CARING CONVERSATIONS

- Have people share responses to a question during the Sharing of the Peace.
- Challenge members to "Take the Caring Conversation Challenge" during October.
- Highlight helpful resources to encourage Caring Conversations twice a month.
- Have people share what they do to engage in Caring Conversations regularly.
- Have young people teach a Caring Conversation practice during onsite and online events.

DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES

- Highlighting *Taking Faith Home* questions and prayers to be used during the week.
- Inviting members to listen and discuss the sermon at home (or in the car) via a podcast.
- Inviting people to weekly blog postings related to the sermon theme.

SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES

- Offer the *Forming Faith in Daily Life* Preaching & Teaching series
- Highlight (through story and video) one ministry opportunity a month.
- Share stories of members involved in ministry and deploying their gifts.
- Provide ideas and opportunities for "Sharing God's Love this Week."

MEANINGFUL RITUALS & TRADITIONS

- Celebrate Baptism & Anniversary of Baptism Milestones.
- Celebrate First Communion, Welcome to Worship, First Bible, Entering Confirmation, Confirmation, and Graduation Milestones.
- Celebrate commissioning services for Stephens's Ministers, servant groups, local and global missionaries, etc.
- Celebrate Civic holidays including Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, etc.
- Celebrate the completion of study courses (Keryma, Crossways) and training events (Stephen Ministry).



jladoux@vibrantfaith.org



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