

Guide for New Pastors (7/8/20)

July 1 marked the beginning of new appointments in GNJ. Many congregations are now navigating a transition with diligence and patience. During this time it is recommended that new pastors set up a meeting with the small group leaders in their new churches to engage in some meaningful conversation.

Here are some questions to lead the conversation, both for the pastor and the small group leaders:

For the pastor

- From your perspective as a pastor, why do we have small-group ministry?
- What is your desire for our small group ministry?
- In your mind, what will successful small-group ministry in our church look like in one year? Three years?
- How will I know the small-group ministry is successful in your eyes?
- What do you need of me as a Small Group Leader?
- How often would you like me to communicate with you about small-group ministry progress?

For Small Group Leaders

- What are your favorite small group studies/programs?
- How do you as a leader recruit new group members?
- Are there any group strategies or approaches that have worked well in our context?
- Are there any group strategies or approaches that you believe have not worked in our context?
- Does our church need or want a small-group ministry that grows quickly or one that grows steadily?
- What is the next important step for Small Group Ministry? (adapted from SmallGroups.com)

Small Group ministry is important in all church settings. Small Groups flourish with your encouragement and support of the lay leadership team. If there is any way GNJ can support your Small Group Ministry, please contact me, Gina Yeske, gyeske@gnjumc.org