

FORWARD FOCUS UPDATE - Spring, 2021

Fall, 2019 - Berea Friendship UMC commits to “Forward Focus” process. Team is formed and the church begins to study its past, examine its current situation, and consider the church’s potential for ministry.

September and October, 2019 - Timeline highlighting significant events and ministries in the life of the church created and survey identifying our strengths, challenges, & opportunities completed.

Fall, 2019 – February 2020 - Forward Focus team meets regularly to review surveys, to study data about our community, to review trends in membership, finances, and programs, and to make a candid assessment of those resources *essential* for effective ministry.

February 23, 2020 - FF team presented its initial findings in a congregational meeting.

March, 2020 – FF team’s Report to the Church shared with congregation (Please see church’s website if you wish to review this report.)

Fall, Winter, 2020 – After COVID forced postponement of plans for further church-wide meetings and thanks to the miracle of Zoom, the FF team resumes its discussions, meeting regularly beginning in October. In November, the congregation is asked to identify those values most important to them. Then, based on those core values, the team develops a **Mission Statement**, a statement of our purpose, of why BF exists, and a **Vision Statement** that points to what the church can be.

Our Mission:

Berea Friendship United Methodist Church is called to share the good news of Jesus and to serve others in His name.

Our Vision

At Berea Friendship United Methodist Church our vision is to strengthen and encourage our faith journey with others to build meaningful relationships and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

January - February, 2021 - From the Mission and Vision Statements, **an Action Plan** to fulfill this vision is developed; the plan has these key points:

- create a collaborative culture between the pastor and laity that is committed to the mission and vision of the church
- enhance and expand worship experiences that honor God and inspire us to be a people of service
- reach out into our community to engage in mission ministries where God is calling us to serve
- develop our faith journey through small group experiences

March – April, 2021 - Goals with specific steps to achieve them are being determined that will hold us accountable to our vision and mission as we continue and expand our journey of faith both within and beyond the walls of Berea Friendship. Details of these goals will be shared as they are completed. All members of BF are encouraged to support this effort with their prayers and to share their suggestions with the FF team.