

LEADERS' WORKSHOP – PRESBYTERY OF WABASH VALLEY

IN GOOD COMPANY: BECOMING FAITHFUL READERS AND DOERS OF SCRIPTURE

The goal for missional churches is not only to read, hear, and study the Bible, but to become a people whose identity, common life, and shared ministry is shaped by the biblical witness to God's "wonderful deeds" (1 Peter 2:9).

This Workshop explores essential foundations for the communal practice of Bible study in the congregation. You will be invited to reflect on and share the experience of your church, and consider how to develop and deepen this practice for the missional renewal of your congregation.

Exploration around four themes:

- God's drama of salvation – keeping the landmark events in sight
- Making sense of our lives within the Bible's story
- Communal hearing and reading – a diverse people discerning one mind together
- A community that will startle the world!

In this workshop you will receive –

- Help in developing your church's practice of Bible study.
- Specific helps for utilizing a missional transformation Bible study.
- Practical ideas for building broad participation.
- A new perspective on the formative role of Scripture study

There is no quick fix or single Bible study tool that will solve all the church's challenges today. However, across the board, a fresh approach to reading and doing Scripture in the life of the church is necessary. Where churches are learning the posture of a missional church, their leaders and members are being drawn to the heart of the matter – becoming communities manifesting a common life worthy of the Gospel. The practice of Bible study in communion is a foundational component of a compelling witness before a watching world!

To begin the conversation, we suggest that you discuss these questions with others in your congregation in preparation for this workshop:

Where and why do you read the Bible?

Where and why do the people in your congregation read the Bible?

What has been most formative in shaping the way you read the Bible?